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TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022

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ASHOK GEHLOT
Chief Minister, Rajasthan

सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan

A Historic, Humane Decision

Rajasthan Implements Old Pension Scheme

A Major Step towards Employee Welfare and Development of the State

Rajasthan Government in its 2022-23 Budget has announced to implement the Old-Pension Scheme (OPS) for all government employees appointed on or after 1 January, 2004. Under this, employees will get benefits like pension/family pension, gratuity and commuted pension amount, making them much stronger socio-economically.

10% monthly salary deduction under NPS has been stopped and employees are getting increased salary from 1 April 2022. Additionally, amount remaining after adjustment of Pensioner Medical Fund (RGHS) from salary deduction will be given with interest on GPF upon retirement.

Shortcomings of New Pension Scheme

- No guarantee of pension
- Mandatory 10% contribution by employee
- National Human Rights Commission has asked Govt of India to set up Committee for review of NPS for safeguarding human rights of employees
- Second National Judicial Pay Commission has recommended that NPS should not be implemented for Judicial Services
- Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have set up committees to review NPS
- The New Pension Scheme was not implemented for Armed Forces. This clearly shows that the Old Pension Scheme provided sufficient social security to these employees.

CAG has revealed shocking facts about implementation, planning and monitoring of NPS:

- Even after 15 years from introduction of NPS, rules on service conditions/retirement benefits in respect of employees covered by NPS are still pending for finalisation
- There is neither any indication whether actuarial evaluation of the Scheme was conducted once in 2 years, nor has there been adoption of any other mechanism to assess the viability of the Scheme
- Assurance on 100% coverage of eligible employees is still lacking in the Scheme

Advantages of the Old Pension Scheme

- Pension Guarantee: Employee gets 50% of the last monthly salary as pension every month
- Employee does not have to pay any contribution
- Dearness relief for securing employees against inflation
- Commutation of pension up to 33%

Positive Impact of OPS on State's Development

- Personnel will be more motivated towards work, leading to good governance.
- More meritorious and talented candidates will apply for new vacancies.
- Implementation of old pension scheme will not result in deduction of even a single rupee from development expenditure of the state and welfare of its people.

Rajasthan Samwad

#Rajasthan_NPS2OPS

Department of Information and Public Relations
Government of Rajasthan

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CBSE to announce results even if students skip one term exam
page 10

French President Macron pledges to tackle divisions
page 11

Tesla CEO Elon Musk to buy Twitter for $44 billion
page 12

Dhawan sets up Punjab King's victory over Chennai Super Kings
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NEARBY

Infrastructure to be ramped up in tech hubs

BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday promised to ramp up infrastructure in the tech hubs of HSR Layout, Koramangala and Indiranagar where there is a high concentration of IT/BT companies and startups.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

Bommai takes note of contractors' concerns

BENGALURU

In an attempt to bring a thaw in the frosty relations between contractors and the Government, Chief Minister Bommai met contractors on Monday and promised to streamline tendering.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

No limits to Russia-China ties, says EU chief amid Ukraine war

Ursula von der Leyen seeks 'diplomatic solution' to Ukraine crisis

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

The friendship between Russia and China has "no limits", President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen said here on Monday.

Addressing the inaugural session at the annual Raisina Dialogue, which was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, she condemned the Russian aggression in Ukraine but also supported the need to find a "diplomatic solution" to the crisis.

"They (Russia and China) have declared that the friendship between them has 'no limits'; that there are 'no forbidden areas of cooperation; this was in February this year. And then, the invasion of Ukraine followed. What can we expect from the 'new international relations' that both have called for," asked Ms. von der Leyen, who described the current relation between Russia and China as an "unrestrained pact".

Common concerns: PM Narendra Modi with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Delhi. • PTI

The top diplomat of the European Commission recollected her recent visit to Ukraine where she witnessed the ravages of the conflict and expressed Europe's collective determination to ensure "strategic failure" of Russia in Ukraine. She clarified that imposing sanctions on Russia is not a "standalone solution".

Ms. von der Leyen highlighted the common links such as democracy and the rule of law that bound European states and India.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

CJI mulls listing of pleas on removal of J&K special status

'This is a five-judge Bench case... Let me ask other judges'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana on Monday said he would discuss with other judges and consider listing, after summer vacations, the petitions challenging the abrogation of special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370, which stripped the people of their special privileges.

"Let me see after the vacations... This is a five-judge Bench case... Let me also ask other judges," the CJI said, addressing a group of senior advocates, including P. Chidambaram, Kapil Sibal and Shekhar Naphade.

Summer holidays begin from May 23 and the court reopens on July 11. Chief Justice Ramana retires on August 26.

National Conference members at a recent protest in Jammu over the removal of special status of J&K. • PTI

The senior advocates, in an oral mentioning before the CJI, said the Article 370 case had been pending in the Supreme Court for more than two years even as a separate challenge has been filed against the Centre's decision to appoint a Delimitation Commission to redraw Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Let the case be listed immediately after the vacations," Mr. Chidambaram urged the court.

The case has not come up after a five-judge Bench led by Justice Ramana (as he was then), in an order in March 2020, refused to refer the petitions to a larger Bench.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Post-bail, Jignesh Mevani arrested in another case

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Minutes after getting bail in a case related to an "offensive" tweet against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Independent MLA from Gujarat Jignesh Mevani was re-arrested by the Assam police for allegedly assaulting and outraging the modesty of a woman police officer. The MLA's lawyer, Angshuman Bora, said the Barpeta police filed a case against Mr. Mevani on Sunday based on an FIR that he had "misbehaved, used slang words, assaulted and inappropriately touched" the officer in the escort party while he was being taken from the Guwahati airport on April 21.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

T.N. clips Governor's power to appoint V-Cs

Two Bills seek to empower State in appointments

DENNIS S. JESUDASAN
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu Assembly on Monday adopted two Bills that seek to empower the government to appoint Vice-Chancellors (V-Cs) to 13 State universities under the aegis of the Higher Education Department by amending the respective Acts.

The AIADMK and the BJP opposed the Bill, and the latter also staged a walkout from the Assembly.

Currently, the Governor, who is also the Chancellor of the State universities, appoints V-Cs from a panel of three names recommended by a selection committee.

Incidentally, the House adopted the Bills on the same day that Governor R.N. Ravi inaugurated a two-day conference of V-Cs of State, Central and private universities at Udhagamandalam.

The Bills, introduced in the House by Higher Education Minister K. Ponmudy, cited the Gujarat University Act, 1949, and the Telangana Universities Act, 1991, which empower the State governments to appoint V-Cs. It also cited the Karnataka State Universities Act, 2000, according to which the V-Cs shall be appointed by the Chancellor with the concurrence of the State government.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said in the House that though it had been the tradition that the Governor would consult the government, there had been a change in the recent past.

"During the past four years, there has been a trend in which the Governor, without consulting the State government, is functioning as if he has the exclusive right over appointing V-Cs," he said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Govt. makes wearing masks compulsory

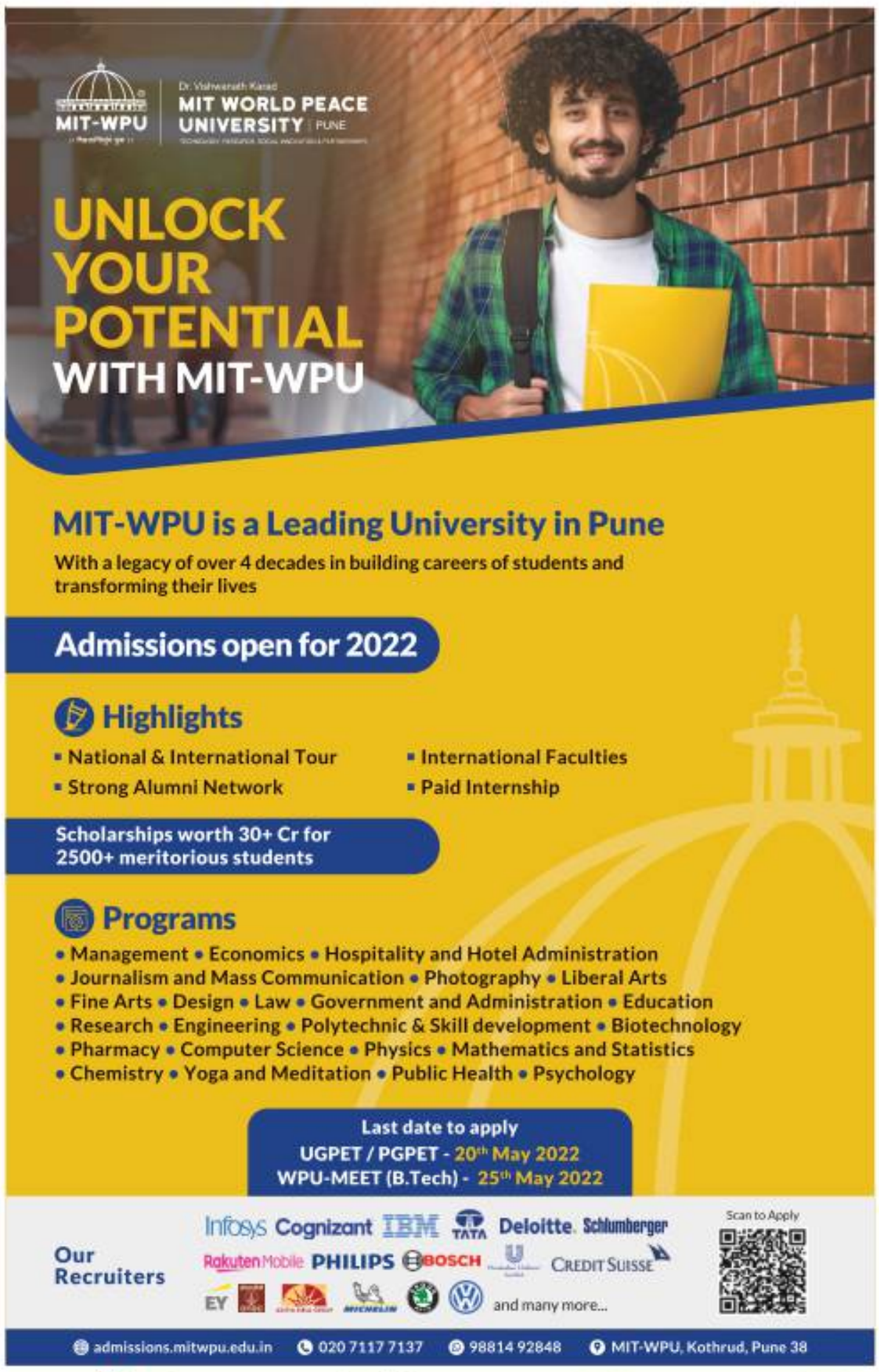
Spitting in public places to invite action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State Government issued an order on Monday making wearing masks/face covering compulsory in all public places, workplaces and while travelling.

While the penalty for non-compliance has not been announced, the Government has made spitting in public places a punishable offence with fine. "Spitting in public places will be punishable with fine as prescribed in accordance with laws, rules or regulations by the local authorities," stated the Order issued by Chief Secretary P. Ravi Kumar.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 2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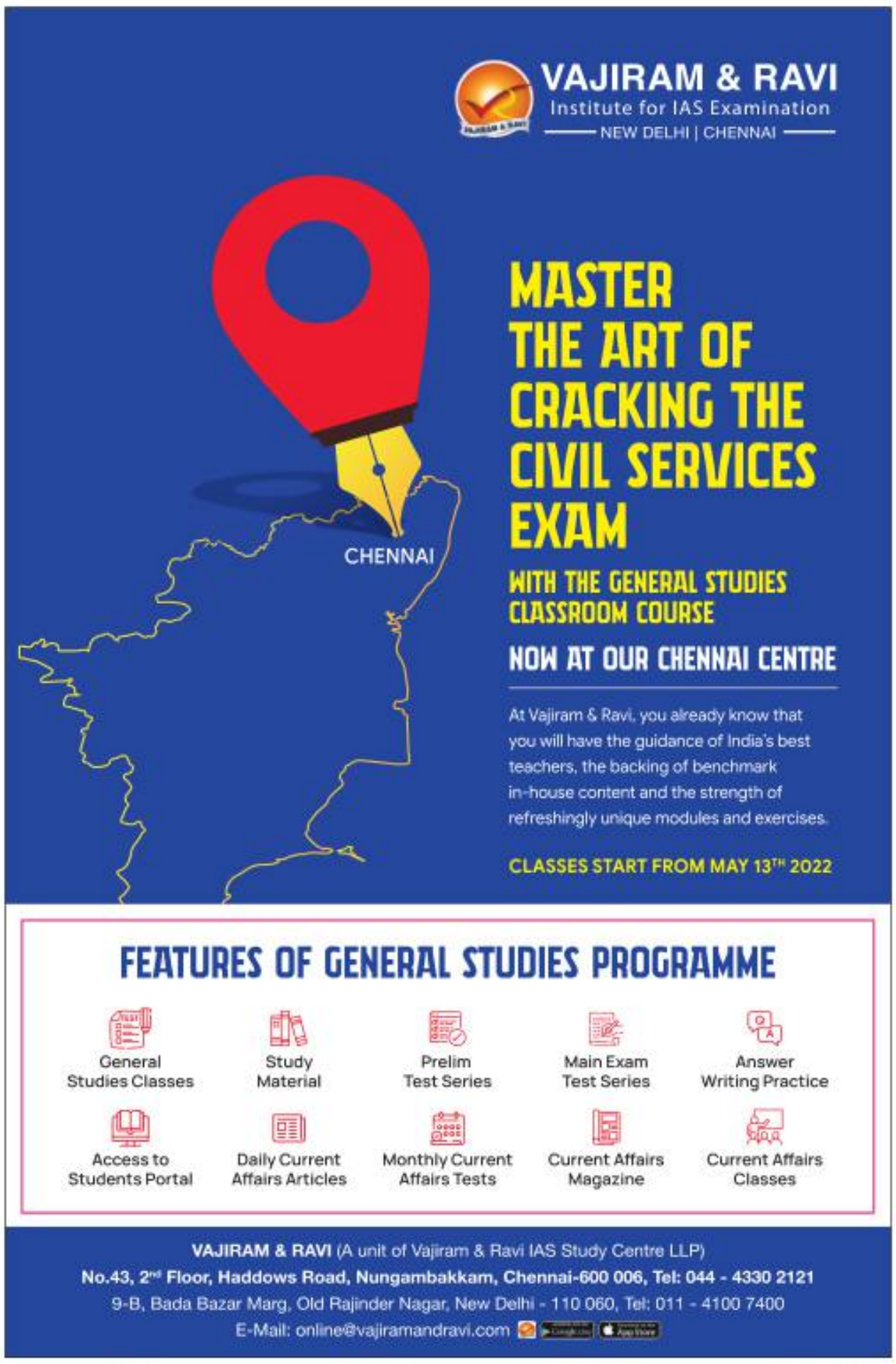
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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Enabling rural women

10 In crore, the number of women connected by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) who set the target of "Mission ₹1 lakh", aimed at raising the annual income of women under self-help groups and boosting economic activity in rural areas across India. The Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh called upon the panchayats to ensure public welfare through empowerment, public participation, transparency and use of technology. Mission ₹1 lakh is an initiative aimed at enabling rural SHG women. PTI

Increased expenditure

0.9 In percentage, the increase in India's military expenditure to $76.6 billion in 2021 when compared to 2020, according to a report released by defence think-tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). China, the world's second-largest spender, allocated an estimated $293 billion to its military in 2021, an increase of 4.7%from 2020 and 72% from 2012, the report added. The militaries of India and China have been in a border standoff in eastern Ladakh for the last 23 months. PTI

Natural farming

4 In lakh hectare, the land brought under natural farming so far as part of a sub-scheme of the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, according to Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. Mr.Tomar, while addressing a national workshop on innovative agriculture said that it was the need of the hour to do farming that works in harmony with nature, reduces the cost of production, and ensures good-quality produce and profits to farmers. He added that Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, parts of Haryana and Gujarat were gradually adapting to natural farming. PTI

Sri Lanka stocks plunge

12.6 In percentage, the decrease in the main index of the crisis hit Sri Lankan stock exchange due to which it halted trade for the second time this month. This has derailed the bourse's tentative reopening after a two-week break aimed at forestalling a market collapse. The island nation is grappling with its worst economic downturn since independence in 1948, with months of regular blackouts and acute shortages of food and fuel. Equities have shed nearly 40% of their value since January. AFP

Tiger deaths

17 The number of tigers to have died in Madhya Pradesh in the last 107 days, including three due to poaching, according to an official. On Sunday, a tigress cub was found dead in the buffer zone of Bandhavgarh Reserve in what may have been the handiwork of an adult tiger. Between January and December last year, the State had lost 42 tigers, the biggest chunk of the 127 deaths nationwide reported by the National Tiger Conservation Authority. Ajay Dubey, founder of Prayatna, stated that the deaths were caused due to a shrinking prey base. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

The quarrel over Kuril Islands

What are the different claims Russia and Japan assert over the disputed islands? Why has the issue resurfaced again?

THE GIST

- A set of four islands situated between the Sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean near the north of Japan's northernmost prefecture, Hokkaido are under dispute as both Moscow and Tokyo claim sovereignty over them. But they have been under Russian control since the end of World War II.
- In 1956, it was suggested that two of the four islands be returned to Japan once a peace treaty was signed. However, persisting differences prevented the signing of a peace treaty though the two countries signed the Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration, which restored diplomatic relations.
- Soon after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Japan's Foreign Minister stated that Russia had "occupied" the southern part of the Kuril Islands, thereby violating international law. Additionally, Japan's recent Diplomatic Bluebook for 2022 described the Kuril Islands as being under Russia's "illegal occupation".

UMA PURUSHOTHAMAN

The story so far: The Russian invasion of Ukraine seems to have brought to the forefront some other disputes that Russia has with the West's allies. On April 22, Japan's Diplomatic Bluebook for 2022 described the Kuril Islands (which Japan calls the Northern Territories and Russia as the South Kurils) as being under Russia's "illegal occupation". This is the first time in about two decades that Japan has used this phrase to describe the dispute over the Kuril Islands. Japan had been using softer language since 2003, saying that the dispute over the islands was the greatest concern in Russia-Japan bilateral ties.

What are the Kuril Islands/ Northern Territories?

These are a set of four islands situated between the Sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean near the north of Japan's northernmost prefecture, Hokkaido. Both Moscow and Tokyo claim sovereignty over them though the islands have been under Russian control since the end of World War II. The Soviet Union had seized the islands at the end of World War II and by 1949 had expelled its Japanese residents. Tokyo claims that the disputed islands have been part of Japan since the early 19th century.

What lies behind the dispute?

According to Tokyo, Japan's sovereignty over the islands is confirmed by several treaties like the Shimoda Treaty of 1855, the 1875 Treaty for the exchange of Sakhalin for the Kuril Islands (Treaty of St. Petersburg), and the Portsmouth Treaty of 1905 signed after the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05 which Japan had won. Russia, on the other hand, claims the Yalta Agreement (1945) and the Potsdam Declaration (1945) as proof of its sovereignty and argues that the San Francisco Treaty of 1951 is legal evidence that Japan had acknowledged Russian sovereignty over the islands. Under Article 2 of the treaty, Japan had "renounced all right, title and claim to the Kuril Islands."

Japan has probably been spurred by its fears of a Russia-China alliance as Japan itself has territorial disputes and an uneasy history with China

However, Japan argues that the San Francisco Treaty cannot be used here as the Soviet Union never signed the peace treaty. Japan also refuses to concede that the four disputed islands were in fact part of the Kuril chain. In fact, Japan and Russia are technically still at war because they have not signed a peace treaty after World War II. In 1956, during Japanese Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama's visit to the Soviet Union, it was suggested that two of the four islands would be returned to Japan once a peace treaty was signed. However, persisting differences prevented the signing of a peace treaty though the two countries signed the Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration, which restored diplomatic relations between the two nations. The Soviet Union later hardened its position, even refusing to recognise that a territorial dispute existed with Japan. It was only in 1991 during Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan that the USSR recognised that the islands were the subject of a territorial dispute.

Have there been attempts at resolution?

Since 1991, there have been many attempts to resolve the dispute and sign a peace treaty. The most recent attempt was under Prime Minister Shinzo Abe when joint economic development of the disputed islands was explored. In fact, both countries had agreed to have bilateral negotiations based on the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration. Russia was even willing to give back two islands, the Shikotan Island and the Habomai islets, to Japan after the conclusion of a peace treaty as per the 1956 declaration. Japan's attempt to improve ties with Russia was driven by its need to diversify energy sources and Russia by its need to diversify its basket of buyers and bring in foreign investments. But nationalist sentiments on both sides prevented resolution of the dispute.

What next?

Soon after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Japan made its unhappiness with Russia clear with its Foreign Minister Hideki Uyama, saying that Russia had "occupied" the southern part of the Kuril Islands, thereby violating international law.

Japan has been among the most steadfast of Western allies in denouncing Russian aggression and punishing it with sanctions. The April 22 statement in its Diplomatic Bluebook will further damage relations between the two countries. Japan has probably been spurred by its fears of a Russia-China alliance as Japan itself has territorial disputes and an uneasy history with China.

Secondly, Japan might have felt that this is a good opportunity to further isolate Russia and paint it as a "habitual offender" of international law.

Finally, Tokyo might have been prompted to take this position as it feels that the invasion of Ukraine proves that getting back the Kuril Islands is a lost cause.

Japan's policy shift on the Kuril Islands will only embitter bilateral relations with Russia while advancing the possibility of its two neighbours, China and Russia, coming together against it.

Uma Purushothaman is Assistant Professor (Senior Scale) at the Department of International Relations, Central University of Kerala

The Kuril Islands kerfuffle between Russia and Japan

Post Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Japan has elevated its claim over the Kuril Islands which is currently under the control of Russia. On April 22, Japan's Diplomatic Bluebook for 2022 described the Kuril Islands as being under Russia's "illegal occupation."

HISTORY OF THE KURIL DISPUTE

- **1855:** The **Treaty of Shimoda** gives southern Kurils to Japan and rest of the island chain to Russia. Sakhalin Island to be under joint administration
- **1875:** The **Treaty of St. Petersburg** cedes all Kurils to Japan in exchange for Russian jurisdiction over Sakhalin
- **1905:** After Russia's defeat in the **Russo-Japanese War,** Japan gains control of southern Sakhalin
- **1945:** The Soviet Union occupies the entire Kuril chain and southern Sakhalin after declaring war on Japan during the final days of **World War II**
- **1951:** Japan renounces claim to Kurils in the **Treaty of San Francisco,** signed between Japan and the Allied powers. The Soviet Union does not sign, and Japan later claims that the four southern islands are not part of the Kuril chain
- **1956:** The **Soviet-Japanese Joint Declaration** restores diplomatic ties between the two countries. The Soviet Union agrees to cede islands of Shikotan and Habomai to Japan after signing of formal peace treaty. Japan claims territorial rights to all four southern islands, so no agreement is signed

Sources: Stratfor, wire agencies

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EXPLAINER

Netflix: counting losses and subscribers

Why is the streaming platform losing subscribers? How is it trying to generate more revenue?

THE GIST

- Netflix lost two lakh subscribers in the first quarter of its financial year. It attributed the losses to geopolitical tensions in Ukraine, increasing competition and issues pertaining to account sharing and 'freeloading'.
- The streaming platform estimates that in addition to 222 million paying households, Netflix is being shared with over 100 million additional households. It aspires to monetise all these additional households.
- In each market, Netflix strives to ensure that the product mix incorporates subscription prices and the willingness and ability to pay. This is why subscription prices keep fluctuating at a regional level.

SAPTAPARNO GHOSH

The story so far: Streaming platform Netflix lost two lakh subscribers in the first quarter of its financial year and expects to lose another two million subscribers in the second quarter. It attributed the losses to geopolitical tensions in Ukraine, increasing competition and issues pertaining to household penetration referring to the consumption of content from a single account in a household and sharing outside the household.The day it communicated the quarterly results, *Reuters* reported that Netflix's stock fell by 26%. Moreover, it erased about $40 billion of its stock market value.

Why has there been a fall in paid subscriptions?

Netflix stated that the percentage of its paying membership has not changed much over the years.

This is because of the complicated dimension of sharing and 'freeloading'. Netflix sharing is complicated. If a family of four views OTT content on a connected TV (any device that enables content streaming on a television) with a standard subscription which permits two profiles, it is difficult to categorise it as 'sharing'. An upgraded package, which allows more devices and profiles, in such a situation may seem unnecessary. This results in lower monetisation.

Other than connected TVs, Netflix referred to factors they "don't directly control" such as adoption of on-demand entertainment and data costs. The streaming platform estimates that in addition to 222 million paying households, Netflix is being shared with over 100 million additional households. While sharing an account within the household is reasonable, Netflix aspires to monetise the additional sharing with people, outside the household.

Earlier in March, Netflix tested features to achieve its monetisation ambitions in Chile, Costa Rice and Peru. 'Standard' and 'Premium' subscribers were permitted to add sub-accounts of up to two people with separate profiles, personalised recommendations, login and password at an additional payment. It was kept at 2,380 CLP in Chile (₹218), $2.99 (₹229.3) in Costa Rica and 7.9 PEN (₹162) in Peru. On the global implementation of the program, Netflix said, "So, while we won't be able to monetise all of it right now, we believe it's a large short-to-mid-term opportunity."

How has the Russia-Ukraine war affected subscriptions?

Netflix lost 7,00,000 paid subscribers following the suspension of its services in Russia. The OTT had suspended its services in Russia following the country's invasion of Ukraine. In March, Mr. Neumann, at the Morgan Stanley Technology, Media & Telecom Conference, said the decision was taken in lieu of the complex operating environment between increasing sanctions and challenges with payment issues.

Its businesses in Central and Eastern Europe – the regions nearest to Russia – experienced a slowdown. The Netflix Chief Financial Officer (CFO) said in a conference call that Russia's invasion of Ukraine had some "spill-over effect" in other parts of EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa).

"...clearly the war in Ukraine had a direct impact as Netflix shut down services in Russia and saw ripple effects not only directly in Ukraine but in much of eastern Europe as the geopolitical landscape has caused stress and a likely move away from entertainment towards news information," ratings agency Moody's stated in its assessment.

• AFP

How is Netflix trying to increase revenue?

Netflix increased the prices of its subscriptions between $1 and $2 in the U.S and Canada. "UCAN (U.S. and Canada) paid net adds of -0.6M was largely the result of our price change which is tracking in-line with our expectations and is significantly revenue positive," it stated in its quarterly results. In contrast, Netflix had reduced prices in India after Christmas.

It informed about "making good progress in APAC (Asia Pacific)" countries including India alongside Japan, Philippines, Thailand and Taiwan.

Subscription revenues are important for Netflix to reinvest in quality content.

This was the reason given for increasing prices in the U.S. In each market, it strives to ensure that the product mix incorporates subscription prices and the willingness and ability to pay while also adhering to the respective market conditions.

Therefore, for certain markets, Netflix has increased focus on localisation of content and not restricting to just English content. This mechanism provides subscribers with movies and web series that are global in nature like *Squid Games*, *La Casa de Papel (Money Heist)* and *Lupin*, among others.

Will Netflix include advertisements with its subscription plans?

The Chairman & President of Netflix Reed Hastings referred to potentially introducing a low-end plan with a layer of advertising. "We're trying to figure out over the next year or two. But think of us as quite open to offering even lower prices with advertising as a consumer choice," he told the investors. The advertising mechanism has been deployed by its peer Disney+. CFO of Walt Disney, Christine McCarthy had earlier said in the Morgan Stanley conference that there has been an incredible advertiser demand since the launch of Disney+. Operating as Disney+Hotstar in India, its 'Super' and 'Premium' plans differ on the latter being ad-free, permitting viewing on two additional devices and added video quality.

Netflix does not live stream sports unlike its competitors. It would have to therefore, potentially add the advertisement option between or at the terminal points of its web series or movies. Ad-free content is among the many reasons that people opt for subscription-based content viewing. A gamble with the same therefore has put forth mixed opinions. Moody's expects the ad option would help the company expand into heavily populated lower socio-economic regions and reduce churn from economically challenged climates. Unrelatedly, it stated that subscribers would continue to grow albeit at a pace much slower than recent years. It anticipates growth in the back half of the year which is typically its strongest.

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SCHOOL OF CYBER SECURITY AND DIGITAL FORENSICS
- M.Tech. Cyber Security — Gandhinagar
- M.Sc. Cyber Security — Gandhinagar • Goa
- M.Sc. Digital Forensics and Information Security — Gandhinagar • Delhi • Goa
- B.Tech. - M.Tech. Computer Science and Engineering (Cyber Security) — Gandhinagar • Delhi • Tripura

SCHOOL OF POLICE SCIENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES
- M.Sc. Homeland Security — Gandhinagar • Delhi
- M.A. Police & Security Studies — Gandhinagar
- PG Diploma in Security Studies — Gandhinagar

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
- M.Sc. Forensic Nanotechnology — Gandhinagar
- M.Sc. Food Technology (with specialization in Forensic Food Analysis) — Gandhinagar
- M.Tech. Civil Engineering (with specialization in Forensic Structural Engineering) — Gandhinagar

SCHOOL OF BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE
- M.Phil. Clinical Psychology (RCI Approved) — Gandhinagar
- M.Sc. Clinical Psychology — Gandhinagar
- M.Sc. Neuropsychology — Gandhinagar

SCHOOL OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY
- M.Sc. Forensic Psychology — Gandhinagar
- M.A. Criminology (with specialization in Forensic Psychology) — Gandhinagar • Delhi
- PG Diploma in Investigative Psychology — Gandhinagar

SCHOOL OF EARTH, SPACE AND INTERNET TECHNOLOGIES
- M Sc Geoinformatics — Delhi
- PG Diploma in Internet Governance — Delhi

*Proposed

NFSU ACADEMY, PUNE
- PG Diploma in Crime Scene Management
- PG Diploma in DNA Forensics
- PG Diploma in Fingerprints
- PG Diploma in Cyber Security
- PG Diploma in Questioned Documents

NFSU ACADEMY, GUWAHATI
- PG Diploma in DNA Forensics
- PG Diploma in Fingerprints
- PG Diploma in Questioned Documents

For eligibility criteria and other information please visit www.nfsu.ac.in

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Executive Registrar

LAST DATE FOR FILLING ADMISSION FORM 10TH JUNE 2022

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EXHIBITION / EVENTS FAIR

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, THILAKAVATHI Kothandaraman, D/O. Kothandaraman Krishnamurthy, R/O. 36, Doddamuniswamy Reddy Lyt, Green Woods Lyt, Margondanahalli, Blr-36, have changed name to Navya Kothandaraman vide affdvt dtd 22/04/22

I, ARAVINDA. J, R/a No.98, New-03, 20th Cross, CHBCS Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040 have changed my minor son's name from Ayush Aravinda to Ayush Aravind vide affidavit dt: 22.04.2022 sworn before Notary A.Manjula, B'lore.

I, MOKAPHANIRAJ Thriveni, W/O. Satyanarayana Rao Bolla, R/O. FN 010, Sml Urban Flora Act, Maruti Lyt,Vinpakshapura, Vidyaranyapura, Blr-97, have changed name to Triveni Rao vide affdvt dtd 22/04/22

I, MARIYA Susanna M, D/o Mariswamy, R/o No.94, Anagalapura Govt School Road, Anagalapura, Doddagubbi Post, Bengaluru-562149 have changed my name to Maria Susana M, vide affidavit dt: 25.04.2022 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'lore

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE MOTOR ACCIDENTS CLAIMS TRIBUNAL (BEFORE THE HON'BLE 1ST ADDITIONAL DISTRICT JUDGE) ANANTHAPURAMU, A.P. STATE
O.P. No : 36/2021
Between :
Meeruga Laxmi & 3 Others ...Petitioners
Vs
P.Ravi and Others ...Respondents
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT No : 2
To,
R2- K. Bhaskar Reddy S/o K. Chinnapu Reddy, # 80, 2nd Main Road, KPN Extension, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 002 (Owner of the Lorry)

Where as the above said petitioners filed the above case seeking compensation against you and others. **The above case is posted to 06-05-2022 at 10-30 AM.** for your appearance. If you failed to appear before the said court personally or through an Advocate on that date. The matter will be decided Exparte.

"As directed by the Hon'ble Court"
P. RAJA SEKHAR
Advocate for the Petitioner, Ananthapuramu, A.P.
Mobile No: 94407 32441.

BUSINESS OFFER

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE for loss of Share Certificates, TT Limited, No.879, Master Prithvi Nath Marg, Karol Bagh, New Delhi –05, Tel– 011 45060708 It is notified that the following share certificates have been reported misplaced & holder of the certificates has applied for the issue of duplicate Certificates. Folio#44111; Holder:Pramod Kumar Vaisa; Certificate#23114 (Shares 100No. 2841401– 2841500), Certificate#46900 (Shares100No. 5795063–5795162). Anyone who have any claim in respect of the said certificates should lodge such claims with the share department of the Company at its Regd. Office within 15 days of this NOTICE. After which no claim will be entertained & company will proceed to issue the duplicate share certificate(s). SD/ Pramod Kumar Vaisa, Deepica Residency, CV Raman Nagar, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE, CCH: 29
O.S. No. 25914/ 2020
Between:
ICICI Bank Ltd., Represented by its Area Debt Manager and Power of Attorney holder Mr. Santosh A Kulkarni., **...Plaintiff**
And
Mr. Annu Singh K. V., **...Defendant**
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
Mr. Annu Singh K. V., S/o. Mrs. Lakshmi Bai, Aged about 31 years, Residing at No.1087, AKG Colony, 2nd Cross, Channasandra, Kadugodi Post, Bangalore- 560067.

Whereas, the Plaint is filed by the Plaintiff Bank, against the Defendant seeking Judgment and Decree for recovery of loan amount of **Rs. 2,70,289.78/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Nine and Paise Seventy Eight Only)** together with interest at the rate of 21% P.A. from the date of filing of the Suit to till the date of decree.

Hence, the Defendant hereby gave this notice to appear before the Court on **15/06/2022** At **11.AM** either personally or through his Counsel to answer to the Plaint failing which, the case will be heard and decided Ex-Parte.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court this the **20th day of 04 2022.**

By Order of the Court
Assistant Registrar
Civil Court Bengalore

Bangalore
Date:
Plaintiff Counsel M.G.C & Co., Advocate and Solicitors, No.66, 4th Cross, Xavier Layout, Bangalore-560047.

SITUATION VACANT

FINANCE

WANTED ACCOUNTANT: B.Com, CA Inter or Post Graduate. Fresher / experienced. Contact / send CV to – 9900095156

BUSINESS OFFER

ARE you in need for business loan from 2 to 100 Crores. Ct: 7448738834

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ADARSH Gujjar, S/o Prakash Gujjar, aged about 29 yrs, R/o C/o Prakash Gujjar, No.169, Dinnepalya, Uttarahalli Hobli, Kanakapura Road, Entrance of Sapthanidhi Kuteera, Uttari, Kaggalipura, Bengaluru-560082 have changed my name to Asa Wasgra Ebalesctrad vide affidavit dt: 25.04.2022 sworn before Notary R.S.Vijay, B'lore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Before The Addl. City Civil & Sessions Court, Mayo Hall, Bangalore. (CCH- 29)
O.S.No. 25843 of 2021
BETWEEN:
M/s.ICICI Bank Ltd;
Having its Regd. Off at Mytree Centre, No.4, 101 Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068. Reptd. By its Manager : Sri. Pramodh.G, S/o. Gurumallappa.B. **...Plaintiff**
VERSUS
Mr. Love Kumar,
Aged about 42 years
S/o. Sri. Suri Harveer Singh, Residing at 5 S Nagaraj. No.16/6, Mathru Layout, Near Sai Mandhira, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore- 064. **...Defendant**
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT
Mr. Love Kumar,
S/o. Sri. Suri Harveer Singh, Residing at 5 S Nagaraj. No. 16/6, Mathru Layout, Near Sai Mandhira, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore- 064

WHEREAS the plaintiffs have instituted the above suit against you seeking to recover a Sum of Rs.13,90,288/- **(Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Ninety Two Hundred Eighty Eight Only)** together with future interest at 11.45%, you are hereby summoned to appear in this Court of the Addl. City Civil & Sessions Court, Mayo Hall, Bangalore, in person or by pleader on the 28th Day of 05, 2022 to answer the same, failing which the suit/application will be disposed of ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on 22/04/2022.

By Order of the Hon. Court,
Asst. Registrar City Civil
Mayo Hall Unit, Bangalore

SD/-
ALTAF HASAN, Advocate, No.60, G-3, Ground Floor, M.M.Complex, Chikka Bazaar Street, Tasker Town, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-051;

TENDERS

VEGETABLE AND FRUIT PROMOTION COUNCIL KERALAM (VFPCK)
"Mythri Bhavan", Near Doordarshan Kendra, Kakkanad, Kochi-682037
Ph: 0484 2981333, Fax: 0484 2427570
Email: vfpckerala@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council Keralam is inviting expression of interest from firms / agencies as consultants for formation and promotion of Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) under the State scheme in 14 districts in the state of Kerala. The last date for submission of EOI is **4th May 2022 upto 5.00 pm.** For more details, visit our website **www.vfpck.org** or **http://etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BENGALURU [CH-22]
O.S.No. 25205/2021
BETWEEN:
M/s ICICI BANK Ltd
Having its branch office at 4/10, Mythree Tower Bommanahalli Hosur Main Road, Bangalore- 560068 And represented by its Collection Manager
Mr. Pramod G. ...PLAINTIFF
AND
Mr. Chinmoy Chowdhury ...DEFENDANT
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
To,
Mr. Chinmoy Chowdhury
S/o Mr.Chandra shekar Chowdary, Aged about 37 years
R/at. No. 03, Shree Ranganatha Nilaya, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 1st Cross Puttenahalli, J.P. Nagar 7th Phase Near Kaveri Bakery Bangalore- 560078
And also at
Ward No.6, Tarun Nagar Makum Post Office Near Railway School, Tinsukia, Assam- 786155

WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted the above proceedings against you seeking recovery of **Rs.4,80,002.42/-** as on 30/01/2021 along with interest 24% P.A. and other consequential relief. You are hereby summoned to appear before the **Hon'ble City Civil Judge, Mayohall at Bengaluru** (CH-22) in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the above proceedings on **07th June 2022 at 11.00 AM,** take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned before the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court, this **21st day of April-2022.**

By order of this Hon'ble Court
Asst./ Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court- Mayo hall Bengaluru

Advocates For Plaintiff
ANVAYA LAW,
ADVOCATES AND CONSULTANTS First Floor, India Express, Building No.1, Queens Road, Bengaluru-560001, Cell No. 9845806822 vasudevan.hn@anvayalaw.com

ನಗರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಸಿಂಧನೂರು – 584128
ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ: ರಾಯಚೂರು, ರಾಜ್ಯ: ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ.
Website:http//:www.sindhanurcity.mrc.gov.in, ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08535–222233

No. CMC/SND/SWM/SBM/MPT/CR-01/2021-22 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.04.2022

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ನಗರಸಭೆ ಸಿಂಧನೂರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಂದಾಯತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999, ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಂಧನೂರು ನಗರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಸ್ತುಗಳ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲವನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. **ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 85.24 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.1,71,000/–** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಿಸಿ ತಿಳಿಯಲು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ. ವಿಸೂ: ಸದರಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನೌಕರರಿಗೆ ಶಾಸನಬದ್ಧ ಸವಲತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಬೇಕಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೂ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ದರ ನಮೂದಿಸಬಾರದು. ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇವಲ ಸೇವಾ ವೆಚ್ಚವನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ತಮ್ಮ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಕಡ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸುವುದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ದರ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹವರ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡುವಾಗ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯಕವಾದ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡದೇ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಕೋಷ್ಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ಕಾಣುವಂತೆ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ / ಮುಂದೂಡಿಕೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕವೇ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **21/04/2022 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ.** 2) ವಿವರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಳಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **27/04/2022 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ.** 3) ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **02/05/2022 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ.** 4) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: **04/05/2022 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** 5) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : **07/05/2022 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಸಿಂಧನೂರು

ಮಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ರಾಯಚೂರು/44/ಎಂ.ಸಿ.&ಎ/2022–23

MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
DIRECTORATE OF MINORITIES
Maulna Abul Kalam Azad Bhavan, No-16C, Millers T ank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-560052 Website: https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
e-Mail: directorgokdom@gmail.com Helpline: 8277799990 (24/7)

No.: DOM/SMS/CR-50/2021-22 Date: 26.04.2022

SHORT-TERM Re-TENDER NOTIFICATON

Design, Development, implementation & Maintenance of School Management Software at Minority Morarji Desai Residential schools/PU Colleges

The Director, Directorate of Minorities, G.O.K., Bengaluru hereby invites short-term RE-TENDER from the interested bidders who are willing for Creating/developing/providing software with Implementation & Maintenance for School Management System at 134 Minority Morarji Desai Residential schools/PU Colleges at under two cover-Technical Bid and Financial Bid.

1	Tender Reference No and date	DOM/SMS/CR-50/2021-22, Dt: 25.04.2022
2	Amount put to tender	Rs.1,60,00,000/-
3	Tender Publishing date	26.04.2022, 10.00 AM
4	Pre-Bid Meeting Date and Time	07.05.2022, 11.00 AM
5	Last date & Time for submission of Tender	10.05.2022, 5.00 PM
6	Date & Time of opening the Technical bid	12.05.2022, 11.00 AM
7	Date & Time of opening the Financial Bid	On completion of technical evaluation
8	EMD Amount	Rs. 3,20,000/-
9	Venue of pre-bid meeting, opening of tenders & address for communication	Maulna Abul Kalam Azad Bhavan, No-16C, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru-560052
10	Contact us for further information	8277799990, 080-22535916, 080-22535920

Interested bidders can visit **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for applying tender and to download bid document.

Sd/-
Director,
Directorate of Minorities,
Bengaluru.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, APR. 26	
RISE	06:01 SET 18:34
RISE	02:58 SET 14:56
WEDNESDAY, APR. 27	
RISE	06:01 SET 18:34
RISE	03:39 SET 15:48
THURSDAY, APR. 28	
RISE	06:00 SET 18:34
RISE	04:18 SET 16:37

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	24
Mysuru	34	21
Bengaluru	35	23

Bengaluru Today
34°C The weather will be dry. A pleasant and hazy morning turns warm day. Night also will be pleasant and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
35°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be warm and uneasy. Night remains pleasant and hazy.

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THE HINDU
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Mask mandate: No penalty for non-compliance as of now

Situation is not alarming in State, says Minister Sudhakar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Although many States that are witnessing an upsurge in COVID-19 cases have reintroduced the mask mandate with penalty for non-compliance, Karnataka has not yet decided to slap a penalty for violators, as of now.

The decision to make mask wearing compulsory in crowded public places and closed spaces with poor ventilation was taken at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai with senior Ministers, officials and members of the State's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Monday.

A woman walking past a COVID-19 testing point at Kempe Gowda Bus Station with her children, all wearing masks, in Bengaluru. • FILE PHOTO

Briefing mediapersons after the meeting, Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar said masks should be worn compulsorily and social distancing should be maintained. "The situation in Karnataka is not alarming as of now. We have made it compulsory but have not taken any decision regarding imposing a penalty on violators as of now," he said. The meeting was held in the context of PM Modi's videoconference with Chief Ministers and Health Ministers of all states on April 27. "We are expecting fresh guidelines and information during the meeting. After that, we will hold another meeting here and initiate further measures," Mr. Sudhakar said.

Uptick in Bengaluru

"We are concerned over a slight rise in the number of cases in Bengaluru, where the positivity rate is 1.9%. The situation will be monitored closely here," he said.

Asserting that people should come forward and get vaccinated with the precaution dose, the Minister said: "The WHO has said that hospitalisation and ICU admissions are high among the unvaccinated. Although we are offering free booster doses for senior citizens, the number of people who have taken the precaution dose is low."

Tele-monitoring

As per the recommendations made by the TAC, the State will soon start tele-monitoring of arrivals from countries such as South Korea, Thailand, and Japan that have been reporting a rise in cases. "Passengers travelling directly to the State from these countries will be specially monitored at the airports and their details and contact numbers will be collected and they will be tele-monitored at home," he said.

Replying to queries regarding the emergence of new variants in Karnataka, the Minister said: "Sub-lineages of Omicron BA.2 are emerging. But we cannot say anything officially until a confirmation comes from the Indian SARS-CoV -2 Genomics Consortium. Samples have been collected and sent for genomic sequencing and the report is expected in two-three days."

On testing, the Minister said the State was now conducting an average of 10,000 tests daily. "We are following the Centre's guidelines that allow testing of only symptomatic persons, as of now," the Minister said.

FROM PAGE ONE

Wearing masks a must

"Individuals must maintain social distancing - a minimum distance of 2 feet - in public places," the Order stated.

COVID-19 restrictions were lifted in the State from February 28 this year after the third wave subsided. Activities were opened to the public in view of the daily low incidence of cases.

Upsurge in cases

Currently, an upsurge of cases has been seen in Delhi, Haryana and Tamil Nadu and a slight increase in daily incidence was observed in Karnataka too. "This Order is being issued as per the recommendations of the State's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee and as a proactive step to minimise the upsurge of COVID-19 cases," the Order pointed out.

Malaria: Karnataka elevated from pre-elimination to elimination phase

April 25 is World Malaria Day

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka that is at the forefront of malaria control has been elevated from Category II (pre-elimination phase) to Category I (elimination phase). The Union Health Ministry has issued a certificate of appreciation to Karnataka on the occasion of world Malaria Day observed on April 25.

States and Union Territories with an Annual Parasite Incidence (API) of less than one case per 1,000 population at risk and some districts reporting an API of one case per 1,000 population have been classified as Category 2 states. Karnataka that was under Category 2 has now been elevated to Category 1.

Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar, who tweeted about this, said: "It gives me great satisfaction to announce that Karnataka has been elevated to 'Category I' by @MoHFW_INDIA for making significant strides towards Malaria elimination! Heartfelt thanks to all health workers and official machinery for this remarkable achievement!"

> **"The Centre has a target of making India malaria-free by 2030 and already 10 districts in Karnataka have not seen even a single malaria case in the past three years.**
> K. SUDHAKAR
> Health Minister

Susanta Kumar Ghosh, former scientist and head, field station of ICMR- National Institute of Malaria Research in Bengaluru, said Karnataka was endemic for malaria, contributing 7% to 10% of total malaria cases in India during 1990's. "Many attempts have been made to contain the disease. In 2016, India launched the National Framework for Malaria Elimination (NFME) aiming to eliminate malaria from 2016 to 2030," he said.

"Dakshina Kannada and Udupi together contributed over 80% of the total malaria cases in Karnataka. The rural malaria transmission mostly transmitted by *Anopheles culicifacies* was greatly contained by large-scale deployment of larvivorous fish initiated by the ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), Bengaluru since 1992. First ICMR-NIMR demonstrated in Kolar and subsequently in Hassan, Tumakuru, Chikkamagaluru and Chitradurga. Later, this programme was extensively deployed by the State Health Department," he said.

"But the main problem remained in DK and Udupi towns. Here, the main urban vector is *Anopheles stephensi*. However, smart disease surveillance including vector control activities were intensified with the development of an innovative handheld GPS-tagged device. This helped in containing the disease transmission" Dr. Ghosh said.

Speaking at an event by BMCRI to mark World Malaria Day, Mr. Sudhakar exhorted health officials to make Karnataka malaria-free by 2027, three years before the Union Government target of 2030. "The Centre has a target of making India malaria-free by 2030 and already 10 districts in Karnataka have not seen even a single malaria case in the past three years. The credit goes to Health Department officials, staff and ASHA workers," he said.

Residents oppose demand for eateries to be open 24/7

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Residents of several areas in the city reeling from rampant commercialisation have opposed the recent demand by hoteliers to allow them to do business 24/7.

Bruhat Bengaluru Hotels' Association had recently appealed to the City Police Commissioner to allow eateries to be open 24/7 as per the January 2021 Labour Department order which allowed for the same.

Resident welfare associations across the city have said that a 24-hour cycle would infringe on their right to lead a peaceful life. • FILE PHOTO

Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) of Indiranagar, Koramangala, J.P. Nagar, Lavelle Road and Benson Town, at the forefront of the fight against commercialisation of residential areas, said they were already reeling under the adverse impact of the extended 1 a.m. deadline and a 24-hour cycle would infringe on their right to lead a peaceful life. RWAs are also planning to challenge the Labour Department's order legally, sources said.

"The Labour Department had in January 2021 issued the order. But there has been no public consultation at all. It affects our lives and aren't we stakeholders in this process? We will oppose this tooth and nail," said Sneha Nandihal, of I Change Indiranagar.

Rise in crime

RWAs have pointed out that the complete lack of enforcement of decibel levels and alcohol in most eateries. "Prevalence of pubs in the area leads to more drug peddling, knife-wielding robbers, pimps and other nefarious activities. It also leads to increased sexual attacks on women," a statement from the RWAs said.

They have also argued that this would lead to more traffic problems, drunken driving, early morning traffic and other issues.

Shortage of police

Sources in the city police said the department was not keen on allowing eateries to be open 24/7. "Opening the city 24/7 poses new challenges in terms of law and order, crime and traffic. We are already short-staffed and it is unfeasible to open the city through the night. We are already facing issues with the 1 a.m. deadline. There is opposition within the department to allow for 24/7 business in the city," said a senior police official.

Question paper leak case: prime accused arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Malleswaram police on Monday arrested the prime accused in the assistant professor examination question paper leak case. The police have also summoned 300 candidates who had appeared for the geography paper, which was leaked at 8.30 a.m., much before the commencement of the exam.

The prime accused, R. Soumya, 32, a PhD scholar, was allegedly the first person to receive a set of 18 questions on her mobile phone before the exam, which she had circulated to different numbers on WhatsApp. The same set of questions appeared in the exam scheduled on March 14 this year, conducted by the the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) for the recruitment of assistant professors in government degree colleges.

Based on the complaint filed by Executive Director of KEA, the Malleswaram police on Friday registered a case against Soumya and others, charging them under the IT Act and under cheating and criminal conspiracy, and arrested her .

The police produced Soumya before the court and have taken her into custody to ascertain the source of the leak, the people behind the conspiracy and her network.

KSPCB considering BBMP's proposal to establish state-of-the-art abattoirs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) is considering the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) proposal to establish state-of-the-art abattoirs in the city. This comes close on the heels of the KSPCB issuing closure notices to the two old abattoirs, one on Tannery Road and the other on Usman Road near K.R. Market.

Confirming the development, a senior KSPCB official told *The Hindu* that the board had issued closure notices nearly a month ago after noticing that animal waste was being let into the stormwater drains, instead of being sent to effluent treatment plants (ETPs).

The official said that the notice was issued to the abattoir on Tannery Road following a direction from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for failure to have in place necessary equipment to check pollution. In the case of the abattoir near K.R. Market, the notice was issued since the BBMP had failed to adhere to the directions of the National Green Tribunal, as per which no untreated effluents could be let into the drains.

Soon after receiving the notices, civic chief Gaurav Gupta wrote to the KSPCB, urging the board to reconsider the closure notices. "The complete closure of the two major abattoirs would create more chaos, as it would give room to illegal slaughter. This would have been difficult to control and regulate," he told *The Hindu*.

After assuring that the animal waste would be collected and sent to ETPs for processing, the abattoirs have been allowed to function, albeit in a scaled down manner.

A KSPCB official confirmed this and stated that there has so far been no effluent discharge into the drains outside the abattoirs. "The BBMP has been cooperative. We have directed marshals to keep a watch," the official said.

Senior civic officials said that the issue of untreated effluents being let into the drains came to fore during the regular review of the K-100 project, under which the raja kaluve connecting the heart of the city to Bellandur is being developed as a citizens' water way. "The waste was reaching the Bellandur lake. The KSPCB noticed this and slapped closure notices," an official said.

Meanwhile, the proposal to set up a state-of-the-art abattoir at Harohalli is still pending. The proposal mooted several years ago is still pending following stiff opposition from the local communities.

Kidney donation racket: Three foreigners held

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The South East cyber crime police on Monday unearthed a kidney donation racket in Bengaluru and arrested three foreign nationals in this connection. Two among the accused are Nigerian nationals and one is from Ghana, the police said.

The accused created fake websites of reputed hospitals in Bengaluru and targeted both kidney donors, offering ₹4 crore for the donation, and extorted money from the recipients on the pretext of medical fee and registration charges.

Based on a complaint from the director of a reputed hospital on Bannerghatta Road, the police tracked down the accused based on their call record details and IP address of the website and arrested them from an apartment in Amruthahalli, from where they were operating.

The accused offered ₹4 crore per kidney for donors and took lakhs of rupees as registration fee. The police have seized several phones, laptops and other electronic gadgets used by the accused to run the racket.

The police said that accused had come to city on student visas and overstayed even after the visas expired. They have cheated several persons worth lakhs of rupees, the police said, The victims have been requested to approach the police and file a complaint against them.

The house owners have also been directed to inform the jurisdictional police about their foreign tenants.

Hoysala staff pay hospital bill of woman in distress

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A woman in distress, who was unable to clear her hospital bills, got help from an unlikely quarter: the police. Assistant Sub Inspector Jagadish and his colleague, Constable Mohan, attached to Hoysala, helped her by pooling in on Sunday.

The victim had dues of ₹1.25 lakh towards pending bills for the surgery of her relative at a private hospital. She was short of money and unable to clear it. After an argument with the hospital staff, the woman called the control room seeking help.

Mr. Jagadish and Mr. Mohan, who were on patrolling duty nearby, went to attend to the complaint. They noticed the woman had ₹70,000 and was in a desperate situation. They spoke to the hospital for concession, and the management agreed to reduce the amount by ₹20,000.

The police personnel then pooled in ₹10,000 from their account and sought the help of their friends, who sent another ₹25,000. The entire amount of ₹1.05 lakh was handed over the hospital and the woman was issued the discharge summary.

The incident was reported to the command centre and officials lauded the efforts of Jagadish and Mohan for their timely help in resolving the issue amicably.

Police collect vegetables

Meanwhile, in contrast, Vijaya Raghava Marathe, a concerned resident, raised a complaint with video proof about Hoysala staff collecting over 10 kg of vegetables from roadside vendors at Sarakki on Monday morning.

Social media

Mr. Marathe, who put the videos and a write up on social media, accused the policemen of misusing their power and collecting the vegetables as bribe from roadside vendors to allow them to do their business.

He also raised the complaint with the jurisdictional Kokanakunte police requesting them to stop the harassment and take legal action against the staff involved .

Two persons arrested, 81 kg of marijuana recovered

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Chandra Layout police on Monday arrested two persons and recovered 81.5 kg of marijuana from them.

The accused, identified as Eeneshwar, 25, from Shivajinagar, and Nadeem, 25, from Kodigehalli, used to source the drugs from their contacts in Andhra Pradesh and would smuggle it into the city concealed under vegetable loads in goods vehicles.

The accused were caught while they were waiting to deliver drugs to their contacts in the city. The duo has been booked under the NDPS Act.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

E-Tender Notice No.: RN-ST-02-2022-23. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Name of work:** Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for KYOSAN make Electronic interlocking system for a period of Three (03) years at Ajara, Majgaon Assam, New Bongaigaon & Bogibeel Bridge North Block station of Rangiya Division. **Tender Value:** ₹2,47,51,379/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹2,73,800/-. **Date & Time of closing of E-tender: 15.00 hrs.** & opening at **15.30** hrs. of **17-05-2022** at Sr. DSTE/Rangiya's office. For details visit **www.ireps.gov.in.**

DRM (S&T), Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. MYS/COML/LVPH/VPH/07 Trains Date 21.04.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following item:

Name of item : Tender for leasing of Parcel Vans (LVPH/VPH) of 07 Trains for a period of 5 years	
Last Date of Submission of bids:	**Up to 16:00 hrs. on 20.05.2022**

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in.
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
Mysuru
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 03-SNT-MYS-2022 Date 21.04.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl	Name of work	Approx. Value
1	Provision of Rail net Connection to Railway Officers Colonies and Extending of Rail net to C&W Depot's @ Sakleshpur, Arsikere, Harihar and Mangaluru New Goods Terminal of Mysuru Division.	Rs. 75,08,610.18
2	Signalling and Telecommunication work for closing of Traffic LC No. 78 at Holenarsipur Stations, in connection with construction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 78 at Chainage 87879 and Closing of Traffic LC No. 79 at Holenarsipur station in connection with Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 79 at chainage 88120 between Holenarsipur - Mavinkere stations.	Rs. 14,14,811.27

Last Date of Submission of bids:
Up to 11:00 hrs. on 17.05.2022
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Mysuru
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
(SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION VIDE COURT ORDER DATED : 13.04.2022)
CMP No. 42 / 2021

PETITIONER/S :
M/S. CASA GRANDE GARDEN CITY BUILDERS PRIVATE LIMITED.
Vs.
RESPONDENT/S :
M/S. WHITESANDS PROJECTS LLP

To,
RESPONDENT : M/S. WHITESANDS PROJECTS LLP, Having its Office at No. 4, the Mayfair, 316, 100 Feet Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore - 560 008. Represented By its Partners Mr. Mohammed Ismail Sait Mr. Mohammed Salman Sait. **...RESPONDENT/S**

Whereas the above named Petitioner has filed a CMP on this Court Under Section 11(5) of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as in the copy annexed hereunto.

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorized by law to act for you in this matter **on 23/05/2022 AT 10:30 A.M** in case you intend to contest the Petition. If you fail to appear, the petition will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Court, this the 13th day of April 2022.

By Order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar

MANUFACTURE & SUPPLY OF TRACK FITTINGS WORKS

E-Tender Notice No.: N_2_HQ_2022-23. **Dated:** 18-04-2022; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following works **Tender No.:** N_2_HQ_EPC_ABS_2022-23. **Name of work :** Provision of automatic block signaling in section Aluabari Road (AUB) - New Jalpaiguri (NJP) (including New Jalpaiguri - Ambari Falakata section) of Katihar Division in Northeast Frontier Railway. **Tender Value:** ₹ 72,90,51,467.65. **Earnest Money** : ₹ 37,95,300/-. Closing at **12:00** hrs. on **12-05-2022.** For details please visit website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

General Manager (S&T), Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SRI. SHANKAR KENNEDY .V, S/o. Sri.S.Venkatasubbu, have intend to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owner Smt. Rashmi Vashisht. W/o. Sri. Rajan Vashishat, Residing at No. P. H. 802, Poorva Panorama, Kalena Agrahara, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560 034.

If any person/s having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed further for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the converted residential plot bearing No. 2755, Village Panchayath Khata No.122/1/2755, PID No. 150200100400221025, In "NANDHANVANA" Layout formed in Sy. No. 92/1, situated at Kallubalu Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, measuring EAST to West 60 Ft. and North to South 40 Ft. in all measuring 2400 Sq. Ft. and bounded on: East by : Site No. 2762, West by : Road, North by : Site No. 2756, South by : Site No. 2754

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates, # 98, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore - 68
Mob: 9845965625, 7406090832,
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FROM THE ARCHIVES

A docket full of unresolved constitutional cases

These involve crucial questions about state power, accountability and impunity, and cannot be left hanging by the courts

GAUTAM BHATIA

THE GIST

- A Constitution is entirely ineffective if a rights-violating status quo is allowed to exist and perpetuate for months, or even years, before it is finally resolved.
- Some of such cases include the constitutional challenge to the Presidential Orders of August 5, 2019, that effectively diluted Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, and bifurcated the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories and the electoral bond scheme.
- Judicial evasion of this kind is damaging for the accountability of the judiciary itself. The responsibility for constituting benches and scheduling cases especially cases that are due to be heard by larger Benches rests solely with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

N.V. Ramana, the Chief Justice of India, stated that he would discuss with other judges and consider listing, after summer vacations, the petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370 which stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its special status. In this article dated December 7, 2021, Guatam Bhatia outlines how the Court has left a host of highly significant constitutional cases long-pending and why hearing them is important for the accountability of the judiciary.

During the framing of the Indian Constitution, it was proposed that any petition alleging a breach of fundamental rights by the state ought to be judicially decided within one month. While the proposal did not, ultimately, find its way into the text of the Constitution, it nonetheless articulated something of great importance: between the individual and the state, there exists a substantial asymmetry of power. While the violation of rights – whether through executive or legislative action – is relatively costless for the state, it is the individual, or individuals, who pay the price, and who must then run from pillar to post to vindicate their constitutionally guaranteed rights. Consequently, a Constitution is entirely ineffective if a rights-violating status quo is allowed to exist and perpetuate for months, or even years, before it is finally resolved (and often, by the time resolution comes, it is too late in the day for it to have any practical significance).

Blow to accountability

This point, of course, is not limited to the violation of rights, but extends to all significant constitutional questions that arise in the course of controversial state action. Issues around the federal structure, elections, and many others, all involve questions of power and accountability, and the longer that courts take to resolve such cases, the more we move from a realm of accountability to a realm of impunity.

In this context, as 2021 draws to a close, a look at the Supreme Court of India's docket reveals a host of highly significant constitutional cases that were long-pending when the year began, and are now simply a year older without any sign of resolution around the corner. All these cases involve crucial questions about state power, accountability, and impunity. Consequently, the longer they are left hanging without a decision, the greater the damage that is inflicted upon our constitutional democracy's commitment to the rule of law.

Kashmir, electoral bonds

What are some of these cases? First, there is the constitutional challenge to the Presidential Orders of August 5, 2019, that effectively diluted Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, and bifurcated the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories, controlled by the Centre. There is a widespread tendency to view the Kashmir question as having been "settled" after the events of August 5, 2019, with it now being a political impossibility to return to the pre-2019 status quo .

Regrettably, this tendency seems to have gripped the Court as well in how assiduously it has avoided hearing and deciding the case. But politics aside, the case raises certain fundamental questions about constitutional power and accountability.

First, it raises the question of whether the Centre can take advantage of an Article 356 situation in a State – a time when no elected government and Assembly is in existence – to make permanent and irreversible alterations in the very structure of the State itself. The answer will have important ramifications not just for Jammu and Kashmir but for the entire federal structure: India has a long history of the abuse of Article 356 to "get rid of" inconvenient State governments, and a further expansion of the power already enjoyed by the Centre will skew an already tilted federal scheme even further.

Second, the case also raises the question of whether, under the Constitution, the Union Legislature has the authority not simply to alter State boundaries (a power granted to it by Article 3 of the Constitution), but degrade a State into a Union Territory (something that has never been done before August 5, 2019). If it turned out that the Union Legislature does have this power, it would essentially mean that India's federal structure is entirely at the mercy of Parliament: Parliament could then, constitutionally, convert India from a union of States to a union of Union Territories, if it so wanted. Needless to say, this – as well – would signal a hugely significant shift in power to the Centre.

As long as both these questions remain undecided, however, the acts of August 5, 2019 remain presumptively legal, with the prospect that they may well be repeated in other parts of India. For this reason, the Supreme Court's now two-and-a-half-year delay in hearing and answering these questions is unconscionable.

Another long-pending case is the constitutional challenge to the electoral bonds scheme, that has now crossed four years. The electoral bonds scheme authorises limitless, anonymous corporate donations to political parties, making election funding both entirely opaque to the people, as well as being structurally biased towards the party that is in power at the Centre. In numerous central and State election cycles in the last four years, thousands of crores of rupees have been spent in anonymous political donations, thus impacting not only the integrity of the election process but also the constitutional right of citizens to an informed vote. However, other than two interim orders, the Supreme Court has refused to accord a full hearing to the constitutional challenge. In a few months' time, it will be one full five-year cycle of central and State elections, with the case still awaiting a hearing: another black mark on the Court's record.

It is important to note that in both these cases, the Supreme Court's inaction is not neutral, but rather, favours the beneficiaries of the status quo . In other words, by not deciding, the Court is in effect deciding – in favour of one party – but without a reasoned judgment that justifies its stance.

Other key cases

This is also true for a number of other cases pending before the Court. For example, as far back as 2013, the Gauhati High Court held that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was not established under any statutory authority. This verdict was immediately stayed when it was appealed to the Supreme Court, but in the intervening years, it has never been heard. Thus, the CBI continues to function – often controversially – despite a judgment by a constitutional court that has found its very existence to be illegal.

More recently, constitutional challenges to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), filed in the immediate aftermath of the legislation's enactment, remain unheard, as do the challenges to the much-criticised Section 43(D)(5) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, which makes the grant of bail effectively impossible, and is responsible for the years-long incarceration of several people. The challenge to Section 43(D)(5) is perhaps the case that most directly affects civil rights, as the section continues to be applied on a regular basis (most notoriously, in recent times, in the Bhima Koregaon case). And cases of this kind are legion.

It wounds the judiciary

Apart from benefiting the party that profits from the status quo – which, as we have seen, is invariably the state – judicial evasion of this kind is also damaging for the accountability of the judiciary itself. Once a court decides a case, its reasoning – which must, by definition be public – can be publicly scrutinised and, if need be, critiqued. In the absence of a decision, however, while the Court's inaction plays as significant a role on the ground as does its action, there is no judgment – and no reasoning – that the public can engage with. For obvious reasons, this too has a serious impact on the rule of law.

It must be acknowledged that the responsibility for constituting benches and scheduling cases especially cases that are due to be heard by larger Benches rests solely with the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

While the three previous CJIs have been criticised for excessive deference to the executive, the current CJI has been on record stressing the importance of the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary. One way of demonstrating that in action might be to hear – and decide – the important constitutional cases pending before the Court.

Gautam Bhatia is a Delhi-based lawyer

KEYWORD

Cost disease

How wages rise even when there is no significant increase in productivity

PRASHANTH PERUMAL

Cost disease also known as Baumol's cost disease, refers to the increase in the wages of certain labourers even though their productivity or skill level has not risen commensurately. This happens because there is competition between various industries for the limited supply of labour. So, even if the productivity of their employees has not risen significantly, employers in many cases have no choice but to pay higher wages in order to prevent the movement of labourers to other higher-paying industries. It should be noted that labour is often a kind of non-specific resource that can be used across various industries.

Let's take the case of an agricultural economy where wages are at a certain level. Now suppose that a manufacturing industry suddenly crops up and bids labour away from the agricultural sector. This will raise the wages of labourers and employers in the agricultural sector will have no choice but to pay higher wages to prevent all their labour from moving into the manufacturing industry. This process of bidding higher wages for labour will continue until wages rise to a certain level at which there are no profits to be made by entrepreneurs in carrying out the arbitrage of labour from the agricultural sector to the manufacturing sector. In the end, the wages of labourers in the agricultural sector would have risen higher than what they were earlier even though there has not been any improvement in the skill levels of agricultural labourers. Higher wages will reflect in the price that consumers will have to pay for agricultural goods and services. Consumers of agricultural products will now have to pay higher prices in order to retain the labour force that is required to produce agricultural products.

In essence, there is no perfect link between the productivity of labour and wages. Even when there is no increase in the skill level of employees in a certain industry, wages of labourers in that industry may rise significantly due to competition among employers of different industries to hire scarce labour. This is, however, not to say that productivity has no influence on real wages. But the effect of productivity on real wages is on the broader, macroeconomic level: when the productivity of factors of production rises, this leads to an increase in the overall production of goods and services in the economy as a whole, which in turn increases the amount of goods that can be purchased with the wages earned by a labourer.

Different case studies

The idea of cost disease was proposed by American economists William J. Baumol and William G. Bowden first in their 1965 paper "On the Performing Arts: The Anatomy of their Economic Problems." In this paper the authors studied why the wages of musicians has increased over the centuries even though the productivity of these musicians has not really improved very much over the same time period. The idea has been used to explain several other real-life cases where wage movements have not been in tandem with changes in productivity. For example, Baumol in a 2012 paper used the idea of cost disease to also explain why healthcare costs in the United States have risen while the cost of computers has dropped over time. But the extent to which the cost disease can explain rising costs in certain sectors of the economy is a matter of considerable debate among economists. Many economists believe that rising costs in many sectors may simply be due to heavy regulations and other supply-side factors that may be restricting output in these sectors and causing prices to be higher than they would be otherwise.

THE DAILY QUIZ

April 26 and April 23 mark William Shakespeare's birth and death anniversaries respectively. Here's a quiz on the Bard of Avon and some of his popular works.

1 This idiom first appeared in 1599 in Shakespeare's play *Julius Caesar* and is used by the speaker to refer to an expression that is difficult to understand. It commonly refers to expressions that use excessive jargon, dialect, or symbols. Identify the idiom.

2 This series of seven paintings by Robert Smirke is derived from a famous monologue that features in a pastoral comedy written by Shakespeare in 1599. The paintings are titled *The Infant*, *The Schoolboy*, *The Lover*, *The Soldier*, *The Justice*, *The Pantaloon* and *Old Age*. What is the painting based on?

3 Shakespeare is the third most translated author in literary history. The first is the author of 66 detective novels and the world's longest running play *The Mousetrap* (since 1952). The second is a French writer best known for his adventure novels, including *Around the World in Eighty Days* (1872). Identify both authors.

4 During the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods, the term 'boy players' was used to refer to children between the age of eight and 12. The boy players were controversial for their frequent appearances in enactments of Shakespeare's plays. What role did the boy players essay?

5 In November 1582, at 18 years of age, Shakespeare was married. He and his wife had three children together. Incidentally, Shakespeare's wife lends her name to an Oscar-winning actress, famous for her roles in *The Devil Wears Prada* and *Les Misérables*, among others. Name her.

6 Lord Chamberlain's Men was a company of actors for which Shakespeare wrote during most of his career. Founded in 1594, it was rechristened 'The Kings' Men' in 1603. What change that occurred in 1603 led to its rechristening?

7 This Shakespearean play is always referred to indirectly and never by its name. This is because Shakespeare is said to have used the spells of real witches in his text, angering the witches and causing them to curse the play. To say the name of the play is believed to put the play in jeopardy, and cause physical injury or death to cast members. Identify the play, also known as *The Scottish Play*.

◄ Shakespeare's 'gravedigger scene' is said to have been used to generate comedy during tragedy. This scene has inspired many pop culture moments in which a person is contemplating a skull (as pictured on the left), reflecting on the impermanence of life and the inevitability of death. From which of Shakespeare's tragedies did this moment originate? •

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The literal meaning of 'malaria' and the mosquito which is responsible for spreading the said disease. **Ans: 'Bad (mal) air (aria)' and the female Anopheles mosquito**
2. The disease a person with lockjaw is suffering from. **Ans: Tetanus**
3. The African nation which accounted for 31.9% of the global malaria deaths according to WHO. **Ans: Nigeria**
4. A disease or infection that is naturally transmissible from vertebrate animals to humans. **Ans: Zoonosis**
5. The common factor among falciparum, vivax, ovale curtisi, ovale wallikeri, malariae and the rare knowlesi. **Ans: These are the six types of Plasmodium (single-celled parasites) that can infect humans and cause malaria**
6. The full forms of H1 and N1 in H1N1. **Ans: Hemagglutinin Type 1 and Neuraminidase Type 1**
7. The two neighbours of India certified malaria-free by the WHO in 2016 and 2021. **Ans: Sri Lanka and China**
8. The surgeon whose principle, that bacteria must never gain entry into an operation wound, is the basis of surgery. **Ans: Joseph Lister**
9. The India-born English doctor who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1902. **Ans: Sir Ronald Ross who won the coveted prize for his work on the transmission of malaria**

Early Birds: Ashok Mehta| K. N. Viswanathan| Shikhar Mathur| K. Richi Kumar

Compiled by: Ranjani Srinivasan

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Rainbow® Children's Hospital
It takes a lot to treat the little.

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RAINBOW CHILDREN'S MEDICARE LIMITED

Our Company was originally incorporated as 'Rainbow Children's Medicare Private Limited' under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, as a private limited company, at Hyderabad, Telangana, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation dated August 7, 1998, issued by the Registrar of Companies, Hyderabad at Telangana ("**RoC**"). Subsequently, our Company was converted into a public limited company, and the name of our Company was changed to 'Rainbow Children's Medicare Limited' pursuant to a special resolution passed by the Shareholders of our Company on November 3, 2021 and a fresh certificate of incorporation was consequently issued by the RoC on November 20, 2021 under the Companies Act, 2013. For further details in relation to the changes to the name of our Company and the Registered Office, see "History and Certain Corporate Matters" on page 294 of the red herring prospectus of the Company dated April 19, 2022 ("**RHP**").

Registered Office: 8-2-120/103/1, Survey No. 403, Road No. 2, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad – 500 034, Telangana. **Telephone:** + 91 40 49692244
Corporate Office: 8-2-19/1/A, Daulet Arcade, Road No. 11, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad – 500 034, Telangana, **Telephone:** +91 40 49692244; **Contact Person:** Ashish Kapil, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer
E-mail: companysecretary@rainbowhospitals.in; **Website:** www.rainbowhospitals.in; **Corporate Identity Number:** U85110TG1998PLC029914

OUR PROMOTERS: DR. RAMESH KANCHARLA, DR. DINESH KUMAR CHIRLA AND DR. ADARSH KANCHARLA

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO [•] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF RAINBOW CHILDREN'S MEDICARE LIMITED (THE "COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [•] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹ [•] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("OFFER PRICE") AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ [•] MILLION (THE "OFFER"), COMPRISING A FRESH ISSUE OF UP TO [•] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 2,800.00 MILLION (THE "FRESH ISSUE") AND AN OFFER FOR SALE OF UP TO 24,000,900 EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ [•] MILLION BY THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS REFERRED TO IN ANNEXURE A TO THE RHP (THE "OFFER FOR SALE") ON PAGE NUMBER 641 OF THE RHP. THE OFFER INCLUDES A RESERVATION OF UP TO 300,000 EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ [•] MILLION (CONSTITUTING UP TO [•]% OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL) FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES (THE "EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION"). THE OFFER LESS THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION IS HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "NET OFFER". THE OFFER AND THE NET OFFER WOULD CONSTITUTE [•]% AND [•]%, RESPECTIVELY, OF OUR POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL.

QIB Portion: Not more than 50% of the Net Offer
Non-Institutional Portion: Not less than 15% of the Net Offer
Retail Portion: Not less than 35% of the Net Offer
(Retail Individual Bidders are those who have Bid for the Equity Shares for an amount not more than ₹ 200,000 in the Offer)
Employee Reservation Portion: Up to 300,000 Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ [•] million

PRICE BAND: ₹516 TO ₹542 PER EQUITY SHARE OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10 EACH.
THE FLOOR PRICE IS 51.60 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES AND THE CAP PRICE IS 54.20 TIMES THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES.
BIDS CAN BE MADE FOR A MINIMUM OF 27 EQUITY SHARES AND IN MULTIPLES OF 27 EQUITY SHARES THEREAFTER.
A DISCOUNT OF ₹ 20 PER EQUITY SHARE IS BEING OFFERED TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION.

Risks to Investors

- The Offer Price at upper end of the price band is ₹ 542 per Equity Share. However, the average cost of acquisition per Equity Share for the Selling Shareholders is as follows:

Name of the Selling shareholder	Avg. cost of acquisition per Equity Share as on the date of the RHP (in ₹)	Name of the Selling shareholder	Avg. cost of acquisition per Equity Share as on the date of the RHP (in ₹)
Dr. Ramesh Kancharla (Promoter Selling Shareholder)	7.32	Mrs. Padma Kancharla (Other Selling Shareholder)	Nil
Dr. Dinesh Kumar Chirla (Promoter Selling Shareholder)	0.91	British International Investment plc (formerly known as CDC Group plc) (Investor Selling Shareholder)	54.50
Dr. Adarsh Kancharla (Promoter Selling Shareholder)	Nil	CDC India (Investor Selling Shareholder)	110.29

- Our revenues are highly dependent on our hospitals in Hyderabad and Bengaluru. Of our 14 hospitals, six are situated in Hyderabad, Telangana and three are situated in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Any impact on the revenues from these hospitals could materially affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. The proportion of volumes at hospitals in Hyderabad and Bengaluru, of our aggregate inpatient and outpatient volumes across all our hospitals are as follows:

Particulars	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021	For the nine months period ended December 31, 2021
Proportion of volumes at hospitals in Hyderabad and Bengaluru to aggregate inpatient and outpatient volumes across all our hospitals	84.07%	81.89%	78.98%	77.28%

- We are dependent on our medical professionals and our business and financial results could be impacted if we are not able to attract and retain such medical professionals. The attrition rate for our permanent employees, which includes nurses (including interns and paramedical personnel) are as follows :

Particulars	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021	For the nine months period ended December 31, 2021
Attrition rate for our permanent employees, which includes nurses (including interns and paramedical personnel)	35.41%	38.75%	45.50%	26.74%

- The Offer Price, market capitalization to revenue multiple and price to earnings ratio based on the Offer Price of our Company, may not be indicative of the market price of our Company on listing or thereafter. The details of our price to earnings ratio and market capitalization to revenue from operations based on the upper end of the price band i.e. ₹ 542 per Equity Share are given below:

Particulars	Price to earnings ratio (based on diluted EPS)	Market capitalization to revenue
For the year ended March 31, 2021	127.53	7.91

For details of market capitalization to revenue multiple for our listed peers that have a similar business profile to us, please see "Basis for Offer Price" section at page 171 of the RHP.

- Weighted average cost of acquisition of all shares transacted in last three years and one year preceding the date of the Red Herring Prospectus ("RHP")

Period	Weighted Average Cost of Acquisition^ (in ₹)	Cap Price (₹ 542) is 'X' times the Weighted Average Cost of Acquisition	Range of acquisition price: Lowest Price - Highest Price^ (in ₹)
Last 1 year	7.80	69.49	0-70
Last 3 years	7.80	69.49	0-70

^As certified by Madhu Mantri and Associates, Chartered Accountants, in their certificate dated April 19, 2022

- **We are significantly dependent on certain specialties for a majority of our revenues. We have four core specialties, namely secondary pediatric care, tertiary pediatric care, quaternary pediatric care and women care (gynecology, obstetrics and related services), of which our secondary pediatric care services have historically accounted for the largest portion of our revenues. See "Our Business – Key Specialties – Pediatric services (including secondary, tertiary and quaternary care)" on page 259 of the RHP.**

BID/OFFER PROGRAMME	ANCHOR INVESTOR BIDDING DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022*	
	BID/OFFER OPENS ON : WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022	BID/OFFER CLOSES ON : FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022#

**Our Company, Dr. Ramesh Kancharla (acting on behalf of the other Promoter Selling Shareholders and the Other Selling Shareholder) and the Investor Selling Shareholders shall, in consultation with the BRLMs, consider participation by Anchor Investors in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. The Anchor Investor Bid/Offer Period shall be one Working Day prior to the Bid/Offer Opening Date i.e., Tuesday, April 26, 2022.*
#UPI Mandate end time and date shall be at 12:00 pm on May 2, 2022.

In case of any revision to the Price Band, the Bid/Offer Period will be extended by at least three additional Working Days after such revision in the Price Band, subject to the Bid/Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar circumstances, our Company, Dr. Ramesh Kancharla (acting on behalf of the other Promoter Selling Shareholders and the Other Selling Shareholder) and the Investor Selling Shareholders may, in consultation with the BRLMs, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid / Offer Period for a minimum of three Working Days, subject to the Bid/ Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band and the revised Bid/Offer Period, if applicable, will be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges, by issuing a public notice, and also by indicating the change on the respective websites of the BRLMs and at the terminals of the Syndicate Member(s) and by intimation to the Designated Intermediaries and the Sponsor Banks, as applicable.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the SCRR, read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, and in compliance with Regulation 6(1) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not more than 50% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("**QIBs**", and such portion, the "**QIB Portion**"), provided that our Company, Dr. Ramesh Kancharla (acting on behalf of the other Promoter Selling Shareholders and the Other Selling Shareholder) and the Investor Selling Shareholders may, in consultation with the BRLMs, allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis (the "**Anchor Investor Portion**"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price, in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations. In the event of under-subscription or non-allocation in the Anchor Investor Portion, the balance Equity Shares shall be added to the Net QIB Portion. Further, 5% of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to Mutual Funds, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs, including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. However, if the aggregate demand from the Mutual Funds is less than 5% of the Net QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation will be added to the remaining QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to QIBs. Further, not less than 15% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Non-Institutional Bidders ("**Non-Institutional Portion**") of which one-third of the Non-Institutional Portion shall be available for allocation to Bidders with an application size of more than ₹ 200,000 and up to ₹ 1,000,000 and two-thirds of the Non-Institutional Portion shall be available for allocation to Bidders with an application size of more than ₹ 1,000,000 and under-subscription in either of these two sub-categories of Non-Institutional Portion may be allocated to Bidders in the other sub-category of Non-Institutional Portion, and not less than 35% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. All potential Bidders, other than Anchor Investors, are required to mandatorily utilise the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("**ASBA**") process by providing details of their respective ASBA accounts and UPI ID (in case of Retail Individual Bidders using UPI Mechanism), if applicable, in which the corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the self-certified syndicate banks ("**SCSBs**") or under the UPI Mechanism, as applicable, to participate in the Offer. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Anchor Investor Portion through the ASBA process. See "Offer Procedure" on page 523 of the RHP.

Bidders/ Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIBs bidding through the UPI mechanism) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID available in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected. Bidders/ Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active. Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIBs bidding through the UPI mechanism) as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorised the Depositories to provide to the Registrar to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders'/Applicants' sole risk. Investors must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CBDT notification dated Feb 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021.

Contents of the Memorandum of Association of the Company as regards its objects: For information on the main objects of the Company, please see the section "*History and Certain Corporate Matters*" beginning on page 294 of the RHP. The Memorandum of Association of the Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Offer. For further details, please see the section entitled "*Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection*" beginning on page 625 of the RHP.

Liability of the members of the Company: Limited by shares

Amount of share capital of the Company and Capital structure: The authorised, issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of the Company as on the date of the RHP is as follows: The authorised share capital of the Company is ₹ 1,390,566,160 divided into 139,056,616 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each, ₹ 55,045,008 divided into 1,146,771 Series A 0.0001% Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares ("Series A CCPS") of face value of ₹ 48 each and ₹ 54,398,832 divided into 1,133,309 Series B 0.0001% Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares ("Series B CCPS") of face value of ₹ 48 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of the Company is ₹ 963,340,080 divided into 96,334,008 Equity Shares of face value of ₹ 10 each. For details, please see the section entitled "*Capital Structure*" on page 112 of the RHP.

Names of signatories to the Memorandum of Association of the Company and the number of Equity Shares subscribed by them: The names of the signatories of the Memorandum of Association of our Company are Dr. Ramesh Kancharla, Dr. Prasad S.V. Venkayalapati and Mr. D. Suresh. For details of the share capital history and capital structure of our Company, please see the section entitled "*Capital Structure*" on page 112 of the RHP.

Listing: The Equity Shares offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received 'in-principle' approvals from BSE and NSE for the listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to letters each dated January 19, 2022. For the purposes of the Offer, the Designated Stock Exchange shall be NSE. A signed copy of each of the Red Herring Prospectus has been and of the Prospectus shall be, filed with the RoC in accordance with the Companies Act, 2013. For further details of the material contracts and documents available for inspection from the date of the Red Herring Prospectus until the Bid/ Offer Closing Date, see "*Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection*" on page 625 of the RHP.

Disclaimer Clause of the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"): SEBI only gives its observations on the offer documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Offer or the specified securities or the offer document. The investors are advised to refer to page 491 of the RHP for the full text of the disclaimer clause of SEBI.

Disclaimer Clause of BSE : It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by BSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 494 of the RHP for the full text of the disclaimer clause of BSE.

Disclaimer Clause of NSE (Designated Stock Exchange) : It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the Offer Document has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to page 494 of the RHP for the full text of the disclaimer clause of NSE.

General Risk: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in the Offer unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. Investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Offer. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of our Company and the Offer, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares in the Offer have not been recommended or approved by the SEBI, nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "*Risk Factors*" on page 47 of the RHP.

THE EQUITY SHARES OF OUR COMPANY WILL GET LISTED ON MAIN BOARD PLATFORM OF BSE AND NSE

ASBA®
Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!
Applications supported by blocked amount (ASBA) is a better way of applying to issues by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For further details, check section on ASBA below.
Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.

UPI-Now available in ASBA for Retail Individual Investors ("RIIs") applying through Registered Brokers, DPs and RTAs. RIIs also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account. Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN. Bidders must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CBDT notification dated February 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021

ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except anchor investors. UPI may be availed by Retail Individual Bidders. For details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in ASBA form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" on page 523 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India ("**AIBI**") and Stock Exchanges and in the General Information Document. ASBA bid-cum-application forms can be downloaded from the websites of BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE", and together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges") and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=35 and https://www.sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=43, respectively as updated from time to time. For the list of UPI apps and banks live on IPO, please refer to the link: www.sebi.gov.in. RIIs Bidding using the UPI mechanism may apply through the SCSBs and mobile applications whose names appear on the website of SEBI, as updated from time to time. HDFC Bank Limited, ICICI Bank Limited, Axis Bank Limited and Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited has been appointed as Sponsor Banks for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of the SEBI Circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For offer related queries, please contact the BRLMs on their respective email IDs as mentioned below. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and mail Id: ipo.upi@npci.org.in.

BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS			REGISTRAR TO THE OFFER	COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited 27 BKC, 1st Floor, Plot No. C – 27, "G" Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400051, Maharashtra, India. **Telephone:** +91 (22) 4336 0000 **E-mail:** rainbow.ipo@kotak.com **Website:** https://investmentbank.kotak.com **Investor Grievance ID:** kmccredressal@kotak.com **Contact Person:** Ganesh Rane **SEBI Registration Number:** INM000008704	**J.P. Morgan India Private Limited** J.P. Morgan Towers, Off CST Road, Kalina, Santacruz East, Mumbai - 400 098, Maharashtra, India **Telephone:** +91 (22) 6157 3000 **E-mail:** RAINBOW_IPO@jpmorgan.com **Website:** www.jpmipl.com **Investor Grievance ID:** investorsmb.jpmipl@jpmorgan.com **Contact Person:** Krishna S Gohil **SEBI Registration Number:** INM000002970	**IIFL Securities Limited** 10th Floor, IIFL Centre, Kamala City, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400 013, Maharashtra, India **Telephone:** +91 (22) 4646 4728 **E-mail:** rainbow.ipo@iiflcap.com **Website:** www.iiflcap.com **Investor Grievance ID:** ig.ib@iiflcap.com **Contact Person:** Shirish Chikalge / Dhruv Bhagwat **SEBI Registration Number:** INM000010940	**KFin Technologies Limited (formerly known as Kfin Technologies Private Limited)** Selenium, Tower-B, Plot 31 and 32, Financial District, Nanakramguda, Serilingampally, Hyderabad, Rangareddi - 500 032 Telangana, India. **Telephone:** +91 40 6716 2222 **E-mail:** roml.ipo@kfintech.com **Website:** www.kfintech.com **Investor Grievance ID:** einward.ris@kfintech.com **Contact Person:** M Murali Krishna **SEBI Registration Number:** INR000000221	**Ashish Kapil** 8-2-120/103/1, Survey No. 403, Road No. 2, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad – 500 034, Telangana **Telephone:** + 91 40 49692244 **E-mail:** companysecretary@rainbowhospitals.in Investors may contact the Company Secretary and Compliance Officer or the Registrar to the Offer in case of any pre-Offer or post-Offer related grievances including non-receipt of letters of Allotment, non-credit of Allotted Equity Shares in the respective beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund orders or non-receipt of funds by electronic mode, etc. For all Offer related queries and for redressal of complaints, Investors may also write to the BRLMs.

AVAILABILITY OF THE RHP: Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the "Risk Factors" on page 47 of the RHP, before applying in the Offer. A copy of the RHP shall be available on website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in and is available on the websites of the **BRLMs**, i.e. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, J.P. Morgan India Private Limited and IIFL Securities Limited at https://investmentbank.kotak.com, www.jpmipl.com and www.iiflcap.com, respectively and on the websites of BSE and NSE at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORMS: Bid cum Application Forms can be obtained from the registered office of **Rainbow Children's Medicare Limited, Telephone:** + 91 40 49692244; **BRLMs : Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, Telephone:** +91 (22) 4336 0000, **J.P. Morgan India Private Limited, Telephone:** +91 (22) 6157 3000 and **IIFL Securities Limited, Telephone:** +91 (22) 4646 4728 and **Syndicate Member :** Kotak Securities Limited, Telephone: +91 (22) 6218 5470 at the select locations of the Sub-syndicate Members (as given below), SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs participating in the Offer. ASBA Forms will also be available on the websites of BSE and NSE and the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available at websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

Sub-Syndicate Members: Almondz Global Securities Ltd, Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Ltd., Axis Capital Limited, Bajaj Financial Securities Limited, Centrum Broking Limited, Dalal & Broacha Stock Broking Private Limited, Edelweiss Broking Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, IDBI Capital Markets & Securities Limited, JM Financial Services Limited, Jobanputra Fiscal Services Private Limited, Kantilal Chhaganlal Sec Pvt Ltd, Keynote Capitals Limited, KJMC Capital Market Services Limited, LKP Securities Limited, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, Nirmal Bang Securities Pvt. Ltd., Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt Ltd, Pravin Ratilal Share & Stock Brokers Limited, RR Equity Brokers Private Limited, SBICap Securities Limited, Sharekhan Ltd, SMC Global Securities Ltd and YES Securities (India) Limited

Escrow Collection Bank, Public Offer Bank and Refund Bank : HDFC Bank Limited

Sponsor Banks: HDFC Bank Limited, ICICI Bank Limited, Axis Bank Limited and Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

All capitalized terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the RHP.

Place: Hyderabad, Telangana
Date: April 25, 2022

For **RAINBOW CHILDREN'S MEDICARE LIMITED**
On behalf of the Board of Directors
Sd/-
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

RAINBOW CHILDREN'S MEDICARE LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offering of its Equity Shares and has filed the RHP with RoC on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. The RHP is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, websites of BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively and is available on the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Limited, J.P. Morgan India Private Limited and IIFL Securities Limited at https://investmentbank.kotak.com, www.jpmipl.com and www.iiflcap.com, respectively. Investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risk, refer to the Red Herring Prospectus, including the section titled "*Risk Factors*" of the Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "Risk Factors" beginning on page 47 of the RHP.

The Equity Shares offered in the Offer have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "**U.S. Securities Act**") or any other applicable law of the United States and, unless so registered, may not be offered or sold within the United States except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are being offered and sold (a) in the United States only to persons reasonably believed to be "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the U.S. Securities Act) pursuant to Section 4(a) of the U.S. Securities Act and (b) outside of the United States in offshore transactions as defined in and in compliance with Regulation S and the applicable laws of the jurisdiction where those offers and sales are made. There will be no public offering of the Equity Shares in the United States.

Adfactors 025
M BG-BCE

CM meets contractors, promises to streamline tender process

They welcome move, but say they have not shelved plans to launch protest

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

In an attempt to bring a thaw in the frosty relations between contractors and the State Government over allegations of "40% kickback", Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai met contractors on Monday and promised to streamline tendering and payment processes to root out corruption.

While the contractors welcomed the initiative, they said they have not shelved their plans to launch a protest against rising corruption in contracts. "The Chief Minister has responded well to the concerns we have raised and has promised a slew of actions. We will wait and see. The association's executive committee meeting is scheduled to be held on May 11, when we will take a call on the next course of action," said D. Kempanna, president, Karnataka State Contractors' Association. On April 13, the association set a 15-day deadline for the State Government to respond and solve the issues they raised. Failing which, they had threatened to stop work for a month and release proof of corruption against 5-6 Ministers, 20-25 MLAs if their demands to curb corruption were not met.

A delegation of Karnataka Contractors' Association meeting Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in Bengaluru on Monday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Responding to concerns over rising kickbacks in State contracts, Mr. Bommai reportedly promised to put a software in place to ensure bill payments are done as per seniority and a committee led by a retired High Court judge to scrutinize contracts will streamline the process, hopefully reducing corruption. The tender scrutinisation committee will scrutinise all tenders above ₹50 crore, it is presently proposed. Contractors lobbied for that to be reduced to ₹5 crore, which Mr. Bommai denied, sources said.

However, he promised the cut off and would take a call on it in the next three days, contractors said. Mr. Bommai also promised to curtail the practice of packaging contracts together, which contractors argue promotes monopoly. "He sought cooperation from us to streamline the processes, bring in transparency and reducing corruption. We have promised to do so," Mr. Kempanna said.

The Chief Minister is also learnt to have assured contractors that the Government will start clearing pending bills, providing relief to contractors. The pending bills have climbed up to unprecedented levels – over ₹25,000 crore and no bills have been cleared since 2020.

Infrastructure to be ramped up in Bengaluru's tech hubs

Work to fix roads to be taken up soon after monsoon

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday promised to ramp up infrastructure in the tech hubs of HSR Layout, Koramangala and Indiranagar where there is a high concentration of IT/BT companies and startups.

His assurance came during the meeting with about 100 top executives of IT/BT and startup companies in Bengaluru during which infrastructure woes in the city were pointed out. The meeting was part of the curtain raiser for the Bengaluru Tech Summit 2022, the 25th edition of the premier event scheduled to be held in November.

"They are not planned layouts. Plans have been drawn to ramp up infrastructure facilities in Bengaluru to give a big boost for IT, BT, research and startup sector. Work to fix the roads would be taken up immediately after monsoon. A sum of ₹8,000 crore has been earmarked for development works in the Budget," the Chief Minister told presspersons after the nearly three-hour long meeting. "The Government is always ready to cooperate and will lend shoulder for the IT/BT industry to march ahead together. We will provide every possible help to keep Karnataka in commanding position in IT/BT sector."

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai during the inaugural function of Bengaluru Tech Summit on Monday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The CEOs of various companies, a note from Chief Minister's Office said, conveyed the need for policy changes, simplification of rules and the need for skilled human resources. "We have started working on these aspects in our own way. The State Government will support companies in IT/BT and other sectors to create more startup clusters and attract research talent. We all need to work together to develop Bengaluru as the number on Silicon City in the world."

He further stated that Tumakuru, Hubballi, Mysuru and other cities are being provided with good infrastructure under the 'Beyond Bengaluru' project to ensure fair spread of companies all over the State.

Allowance scam: Court refuses to quash chargesheet

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has declined to quash criminal proceedings against a retired assistant administrative officer of the Police Department, Tumakuru, who was named as an accused in the chargesheet filed by the police on the complaint lodged by himself about misappropriation of public money when he was in service.

In the light of the material being found at the time of investigation and sanction having been accorded to prosecute the petitioner along with others, the contention that he is the complainant and he cannot be made an accused, lacks substance, the court said. Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while dismissing a petition filed by Krishnappa M. Tumakuru.

It has been alleged in the chargesheet that even petitioner was one of the the beneficiaries of the scam of withdrawing additional travel allowance by producing bogus documents.

Pre-tender scrutiny panel yet to be formed

Government had issued order four months ago

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Amid allegations of commission in public works by the Contractors' Association, the Cabinet decision to appoint a retired High Court judge to head a pre-tender scrutiny committee to scrutinise goods and services procured above ₹50 crore for public purposes is still hanging fire even after four months of the Government issuing the order.

While the appointment is yet to happen though the GO was issued on December 13, 2021, sources in Public Works Department and Water Resources Department indicated that the new committee will only add to another layer to the already existing layers. More than a dozen departments/agencies are implementing civil works across the State with at least ₹40,000 crore allocated outlay in the budget annually.

Sources said that each of the four corporations in the Water Resources Department, which receives close to ₹20,000 crore of annual allocation, have Estimate Review Committee, Technical Scrutiny Committee, Technical Advisory Committee- all headed by retired Engineer-in-Chief or retired Chief Engineers and the Chief Minister - headed Major Irrigation Board. The Technical Advisory Committee, Estimate Review Committee and Commissionarate of Tender are currently functioning in PWD. In departments such as RDPR and Minor Irrigation where such mechanisms are not available, any work above ₹3 crore is to be cleared by the Cabinet, sources said, adding that PWD and Minor Irrigation Department have multiple divisions.

Under the current procedures laid down in the GO, the pre-tender scrutiny committee – after the document is accepted from the Tender Accepting Authority (TAC) – will publish the documents in the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for seven days and invite suggestions from the public. The tenders and estimates are then scrutinised, suggestions received from the public are consolidated and give its recommendation to the TAC within 30 days of receiving the documents. In case recommendations cannot be accepted, the TAC has to communicate in writing the reasons for the same.

"Not only are there multiple layers, but scrutiny of a large number of tenders by a retired judge with the assistance of two members is only going to cause delay due to centralisation and laid down procedures," another source said.

The biggest problem, the source said, could be when the tenders are split to bring down the size to below ₹50 crore to escape the scrutiny. "Already to circumvent the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, tender is being split. The same would continue."

Gadkari struggles to get a cup of tea

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari found it difficult to get a cup of tea at Kalaburagi airport on Monday as the officials concerned had not made arrangements despite having information of his travel plans well in advance.

After paying a visit to Ganagapur and a darshan of Dattatreya, the Minister landed at the airport to board a flight to Delhi. As he sat in the VIP lounge, Mr. Gadkari asked for a cup of tea. Since the officers maintaining protocol had made no arrangements for tea or snacks, the Minister had to wait reminding the staff of his demand.

Mr. Gadkari then asked B.G. Patil, a BJP leader, whether he could arrange for tea. Mr. Patil came out and enquired from the airport authorities and Airport Director Gnaneswara Rao said that it would have to be ordered from outside.

Just as the tea arrived at the airport, the food safety officials could not examine the tea as per the protocol as they were barred by the security personnel from entering the airport.

"As per the protocol, we should examine the food before it is served to VIPs. However, we could not do so, as we were prevented by the security personnel from entering the airport," a food safety officer said.

Umesh Jadhav, MP, who was later briefed about the incident, held Mr. Rao and security officer Noor Maradi responsible. "What would the Union Minister think of Karnataka when he was not served a cup of tea even after he demanded? Please ensure that such incidents don't get repeated," he said.

ACCS-CDAC Foundation Award for IIT-B Director

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Subhasis Chaudhuri, Director of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, was conferred with the ACCS-CDAC Foundation Award for 2021 at a ceremony at International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIIT-B).

The award is given to eminent scholars and researchers in the field of advanced computing and communications. It carries a cash prize of ₹1 lakh and a citation.

A release said the award recognises Prof. Chaudhuri for his seminal contributions in computer vision and computational photography, which has led to significant industrial impact.

Priyank Kharge refuses to appear before CID; accuses Govt. of targeting him

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Accusing the Government of targeting him personally for raising a public issue, former Minister and Congress legislator Priyank Kharge on Monday wondered why the CID, which is probing the alleged irregularities in the recruitment process of appointing 545 police sub-inspectors, had summoned him since he was neither an accused nor a witness.

"I am basing my facts that are appearing in the media. They (police) are trying to evade from their responsibility of investigating. What is the Home Minister (Araga Jnanendra) doing if the burden of proof is on the Opposition?" he asked. While the CID had issued a notice to Mr. Kharge on Sunday to appear and submit the evidence on Monday, the Congress leader refused to appear. "My Twitter account has been hacked. I am getting threat calls. It has been followed up by summons by CID. I am being targeted."

He asked: "Is the department involved in this? Why have those involved in recruitment process not been called for questioning. It is now known that the Home Minister has gone to the residence of main accused and BJP leader Divya Hagaragi. The Home Minister is the executive head of the recruitment process and why has he not been called for questioning? Ms. Divya has been missing for two weeks now. Is she being protected?"

The Congress leader said: "Even before I spoke, the Home Minister has tweeted. Is the department not aware of his tweet? (BJP legislator) Basanagouda Patil Yatnal has said that the Home Minister is not good. Let the Government take his advice."

Alleging that the money collected in the alleged scam will reach officials, legislators and BJP office, Mr. Kharge said that Ms. Divya was a small fish in the entire process. "Whatever money was collected by her will reach Bengaluru. An ABVP worker has already started pretending to have been selected. Media has reported it. An audio clip in which exchange of money is discussed has surfaced. Is the Government not aware?"

Meanwhile, Mr. Jnanendra described the episode of Mr. Kharge not appearing before the CID as "escapism". He alleged that such an attitude had given raise to suspicion that he may be trying to protect his close aides.

B.R. Patil seeks probe into 'irregularities' at CUK

He writes to the President, mentions two recruitment notifications issued by the university

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KALABURAGI

Former Deputy Chairman of Legislative Council B.R. Patil has written to President Ram Nath Kovind, who is the Visitor of Central University of Karnataka (CUK), requesting two enquiries - one into alleged irregularities in the appointment of teaching staff and the other into alleged irregularities and corruption in the administration of the university.

The Congress leader has alleged violation of regulations in the recruitment process in CUK.

Mr. Patil has mentioned two recruitment notifications - 25/2019 dated May 4, 2019, and 26/2019 dated September 25, 2019 - issued by the CUK for the recruitment of Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors, and alleged that the authorities had grossly violated the regulations in force throughout the recruitment process.

"... the candidates who did not have enough research papers published in the UGC-CARE List journals were considered. The scrutiny committees, instead of rejecting such candidates, sent them to the next level in the recruitment process. It was a violation of the UGC guidelines and a compromise of the quality of teaching in the premier institution. Also, it was a huge injustice to the candidates who did not have enough research papers published in the UGC-CARE List journals and, hence, did not apply. There could be many candidates among them who are better competent than those who are selected. The appointing authorities in the CUK committed such a gross violation just to accommodate candidates of their choice who did not meet the eligibility conditions," Mr. Patil wrote in the letter.

The Hindu had carried a story on alleged irregularities in the recruitment of Professors and Associate Professors (Notification 26/2019). Alleging 'rampant violations' in reservation of posts as well, the Congress leader cited a few examples of de-reserving and changing reservation of posts.

"... the post for Professor in the Department of Chemistry was originally reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) as per the roster maintained in the university. However, in the recruitment notification (26/2019), the post was made Unreserved, and a candidate from the Unreserved Category was appointed. Similarly, there were two posts of Associate Professor vacant in the Department of Physics, and one was reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) and the other was reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST), as per the roster maintained in the university. However, in the recruitment notification (26/2019), a post reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) was changed to Other Backward Classes (OBC)," Mr. Patil said adding that de-reserving and changing the reservation from one category to another requires a lengthy procedure, which was not followed by the CUK authorities with a malicious intention of accommodating the candidates of their choice.

Mr. Patil also said that Basavaraj Donur, Registrar of CUK, was facing charges of illegally issuing a BA (Hons) degree in English to an ineligible student, who had not passed the required examination, by taking undue advantage of his position as Head of the Department of English and In-charge Controller of Examination. Mr. Donur's appointment as Associate Professor in the CUK itself was in question, as he did not meet the eligibility criteria set by the UGC on the day of his appointment.

"I seek your intervention as Visitor of CUK for correcting the wrongdoings and putting CUK on the right track for serving the purpose of its establishment," Mr. Patil concluded the letter.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

HOMAGE

RESPECTFUL HOMAGE

K N. CHITSABESAN
15.04.1934 ✦ 17.04.2022
Tamil Scholar,
renowned orator & a humanitarian
Board Member
HINDU MISSION HOSPITAL
103, G S T ROAD, TAMBARAM WEST
CHENNAI – 600045
Tel. 044 - 2226 2244
Mob: 87545 95006 -24 x 7
Email: hmhoffice@gmail.com
www.hindumissionhospital.org

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

Mrs Uma Murthy
(w/o Late S Ananth Murthy)
With deep sorrow we would like to inform that she passed away on 19.04.2022 in Bangalore.
Deeply missed but will not be forgotten
"She was one endearing lady who lived a full life, whose loss will be felt deeply by many"
Deeply mourned by
Sudarshan, Padmaja, Prashant, Mythri and Grandchildren
Vaikunta to be held on 01-05-2022.
Contact Mobile/ WhatsApp: +91 6361319547

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

DOB: 09.09.1946 - DOD:26.04.2021
Sri. A.N. VISWANATHA RAO
Advocate- Madras High Court
Aanu, I wish my tears had the power to bring you back. Missing you so much. "Chitti" for you
Adv. Ramya.V.Rao for the world
Ph: 04424344313

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

19 DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In fond remembrance of our beloved father
Sri Gotur Mahareddy Seetharama Reddy
Your ideals will always be an inspiration to us. You will always be in our memories, prayers and hearts.
Sons:
G.M.P. Reddy IPS (Retd.)
G.M. Mallikarjuna Reddy
Auditor
G.M. Ravi Rajashekar Reddy
Advocate
Daughter:
Smt. Rajalakshmi
Gotur : Ballari

IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF 4TH ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE SENIOR DIVISION, BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT, AT BANGALORE
O.S No.215/2020
BETWEEN: (1) Abdul Majeed alias Mohsin, aged about 64 years, S/o Late Abdul Qader Adam, R/at Flat No. 502, H.M. Grandeur, 157, Wheeler Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560005. (2) Abdul Anwar Qader, aged about 61 years, S/o Late Abdul Qader Adam, R/at No. 188/42, D Costa Square, 2nd Cross, Wheeler Road Extention, Cooke Town, Bangalore-560005. ... Plaintiffs
And: Mr. Ramaiah and others ... Defendants
Summons to Defendants No. 1 to 3
(1) Mr. Ramaiah, aged about 82 years, S/o Late Munishamappa ... Defendant No. 1
(2) Mr. Bathyappa, aged about 67 years, S/o Late Munishamappa ... Defendant No .2
(3) Mr. Munikrishnappa, aged about 62 years, S/o Late Munishamappa ... Defendant No.3
The Defendants No. 1 to 3 are residing at Pattandooru Agrahara Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District.
Whereas the Plaintiffs have instituted the above suit before the Hon'ble 4th Additional Civil Judge Senior Division, Bengaluru Rural District at Bengaluru against the aforesaid Defendants and others seeking for the Declaration and Possession and other reliefs in respect of below mentioned suit Schedule Property.
Therefore, you are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court either in person or through pleader duly instructed on 30-06-2022 at 11 a.m to answer the claim, failing which the case will be heard and disposed off exparte.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of immoveable property of agriculture land bearing Survey No.89 measuring 10 Guntas, situated at Pattandooru Agrahara Village, K.R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk (previously Bangalore South Taluk), Bangalore District and bounded on East by: Land bearing Survey No.85, West by: Remaining portion of land bearing Survey No.89, North by: Pattandooru Agrahara Village Road, South by: Land bearing Survey No. 161.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court, on 20-04-2022.
By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Senior Civil Judge's Court, Bangalore Rural Dist., Bangalore.
Advocate for Plaintiffs: Bhaskar Babu Gowda Bhagat Law Chambers.
No. 100, 1st Floor, Donna Bass Tower, Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park West, Bangalore.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

6TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

JAGADAMMA & KRISHNA PILLAI
"Acha and Amma we miss you terribly"
Remembered by: Loving Daughter and Grand Daughter

IN BRIEF

KCR opens renovated Shivalayam on Yadadri

HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao along with his wife Shobha inaugurated the renovated temple of Parvatavardhini Ramalingeshwara Swamy Temple atop Yadagirgutta on Monday. The temple was renovated as part of the redevelopment project.

Maoists set private bus on fire near A.P. border

SARIVELA

Suspected members of the Konta Area Committee of the banned CPI (Maoist), Chhattisgarh, set fire to a private bus after asking all the 40 passengers to alight from the vehicle, on the NH near Sarivela in Chintoor Agency area of Alluri Sitharamaraju district on Sunday night.

We will trounce TRS, says TPCC chief

My party has told Prashanth Kishor to sever ties with all other political parties, says Revanth Reddy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KARIMNAGAR

The Congress party will trounce the ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi in the next Assembly election likely to be held in April 2023 and form the government in Telangana by bagging 90 Assembly seats to get the State rid of the "corruption-ridden" regime, said Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president A. Revanth Reddy at a press conference here late on Monday.

"The Congress party will not tolerate even the shadow of the corruption-ridden persons at the helm in Telangana, who earned notoriety for their acts of betrayal in 2004 and 2014 besides encouraging defections," Mr. Reddy said.

Mr. Reddy was responding to a specific query on the likely impact of the election strategist Prashant Kishor's marathon consultations with Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao in the last two days amidst speculation over the political consultant's reported proposal to join the Congress party on the political equations in the State.

The TPCC chief was in the town to participate in a preparatory meeting of the party cadres as a prelude to the Rythu Sangarshana Sabha slated to be addressed by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Warangal on May 6.

Mr. Reddy expressed dismay over the speculative reports in a section of media over Prashant Kishor's meeting with K. Chandrasekhar Rao and the deal the TRS reportedly entered with the I-PAC, a political consultancy firm with which the election strategist was hitherto associated with.

An eight-member committee of senior Congress leaders constituted by the party

TPCC president A. Revanth Reddy addressing a press conference in Karimnagar. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

high command to examine the proposal of Mr. Prashant Kishor to join the Congress has recommended that he should sever his political and business transactions with other political parties and devote his full time for the Congress party, Mr. Reddy said, adding that he may have come to Hyderabad to comply with the pre-condition stipulated by the Congress high command to withdraw from his previous contracts.

He said, "The party high command has given clarity that the rank and file of the Congress party in the State should continue to strive to make the corruption-ridden TRS regime bite the dust at the next year's Assembly polls."

Both the TRS and the BJP are our common enemies in the State, he said, alleging that the BJP State president Bandi Sanjay is conducting padayatra in the old undivided Mahabubnagar district as per the TRS strategy to split the anti-establishment vote in south Telangana, the traditional bastion of the Congress.

The TRS leadership has realised that the Congress is bound to trounce it in the next Assembly polls and hence desperately trying to ensure division of anti-establishment votes in the next year's polls.

He called upon all sections of people to voluntarily participate in the Rythu Sangarshana Sabha to extend their solidarity to the cause of farmers and help articulate the voices of farmers against the "anti-farmer" policies of both the TRS government here and the BJP dispensation at the Centre.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Marathwada, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over Rajasthan, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	–	36.7	27.5	Kozhikode	–	36.9	26.5
Ahmedabad	–	42.1	26.5	Kurnool	–	43.1	29.4
Aizawl	–	33.0	19.5	Lucknow	–	42.2	24.7
Allahabad	–	43.9	23.4	Madurai	–	37.0	26.0
Bengaluru	–	34.6	23.2	Mangaluru	–	34.0	26.0
Bhopal	–	41.0	25.0	Mumbai	–	38.5	24.4
Bhubaneswar	–	40.8	27.4	Mysuru	–	33.7	22.2
Chandigarh	–	40.9	23.3	New Delhi	–	40.6	22.7
Chennai	–	37.3	26.8	Patna	–	42.4	25.0
Coimbatore	–	35.4	24.4	Port Blair	–	33.3	26.2
Dehradun	–	37.4	18.4	Puducherry	–	35.1	26.4
Gangtok	0.1	23.0	14.5	Pune	–	39.7	23.6
Goa	–	34.0	25.1	Raipur	–	42.6	26.0
Guwahati	–	32.6	22.0	Ranchi	–	40.0	23.3
Hubballi	–	38.0	25.0	Shillong	–	27.5	17.0
Hyderabad	–	40.0	25.1	Shimla	–	30.1	18.8
Imphal	–	31.2	20.1	Srinagar	–	22.4	12.2
Jaipur	–	41.0	26.5	Thiruvananthapuram	–	33.6	26.2
Kochi	–	32.8	27.0	Tiruchi	–	38.7	27.0
Kohima	–	28.6	14.5	Vijayawada	–	39.6	26.4
Kolkata	–	40.9	28.5	Visakhapatnam	–	37.4	26.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — Yesterday

CITIES	SO2	NO2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	11	13	–	175	124	
Bengaluru	–	77	–	72	226	
Chennai	17	10	39	62	57	
Delhi	49	32	38	293	372	
Hyderabad	5	25	53	142	132	
Kolkata	17	15	28	121	122	
Lucknow	14	67	44	316	199	
Mumbai	–	13	107	105	102	
Pune	105	131	117	180	104	
Visakhapatnam	16	53	48	55	113	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Durgapur, West Bengal recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 370 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Puducherry recorded a healthy AQI score of 22

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Asthma drug can block crucial SARS-CoV-2 protein: IISc study

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A drug used to treat asthma and allergies can bind to and block a crucial protein produced by the virus SARS-CoV-2, and reduce viral replication in human immune cells, according to a new study by researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the drug, called montelukast, has been around for more than 20 years and is usually prescribed to reduce inflammation caused by conditions like asthma, hay fever and hives, said an IISc release.

In the study published in *eLife*, the researchers show that the drug binds strongly to one end ('C-terminal') of a SARS-CoV-2 protein called Nsp1, which is one of the first viral proteins unleashed inside the human cells. This protein can bind to ribosomes - the protein-making machinery - inside our immune cells and shut down the synthesis of vital proteins required by the immune system, thereby weakening it. Targeting Nsp1 could therefore reduce the damage inflicted by the virus, the release explained.

"The mutation rate in this protein, especially the C-terminal region, is very low compared to the rest of the viral proteins," explained Tanweer Hussain, Assistant Professor in the Department of Molecular Reproduction, Development and Genetics, IISc. He and his team first used computational modelling to screen more than 1,600 FDA-approved drugs in order to find the ones that bound strongly to Nsp1. From these, they were able to shortlist a dozen drugs including montelukast and saquinavir, an anti-HIV drug. Working with the group of Sandeep Eswarappa, Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Prof. Hussain's team then cultured human cells in the lab that specifically produced Nsp1, treated them with montelukast and saquinavir separately, and found that only montelukast was able to rescue the inhibition of protein synthesis by Nsp1, said the release.

HC denies bail to SDPI office-bearer in D.J. Halli-K.G. Halli violence case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has declined to grant bail to Mohammed Shariff, president of Bengaluru district unit of the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), who has been arraigned as an accused in the case related violence and attack on police stations in D.J. Halli-K.G. Halli localities of the city on August 11, 2020.

A Division Bench comprising Justice B. Veerappa and Justice S. Rachaiah passed the order while upholding the August 27, 2021 order, passed by the special court for the National Investigation Agency's (NAI) cases in rejecting Shariff's plea for release on bail.

The High Court observed

that "the chargesheet filed against the appellant clearly depicts his active participation in the offence as a member of the terrorist gang and in conspiracy with other accused persons for criminal act in violent acts. Thereby, he was coordinating with movement of other accused persons, including persons belonging to SDPI during the violent acts at KG Halli and DJ Halli police stations."

"Considering the entire material on record, including chargesheet filed against appellant by the investing officer, this court is of the considered opinion that there is prima facie case against appellant and thereby he is not entitled to the bail in view of sub section (5) of 43D of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967," the High Court said.

The High Court also pointed out that the acts committed by Shariff along with other accused persons on August 11, 2020, as stated in the chargesheet "depicts the conspiracy to commit the aforesaid acts of violence and destruction of public properties and to create fear psychosis in the mind of law abiding citizens."

22-year-old construction worker electrocuted in Bengaluru

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A 22-year-old construction worker was electrocuted when he came in contact with an Internet cable that was in contact with a live wire in Sanjaynagar on Monday.

The deceased has been identified as Kishore, a resident of Geddalahalli. Kishore was walking home from work around 7 p.m. An Internet cable was hanging from a tree on the roadside. He touched the wire accidentally, got electrocuted and collapsed, the police said. Passers-by alerted the police, who rushed to the spot and cordoned off the area before alerting Bescom to disconnect the power and take off the wire.

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http://css.keralauniversity.ac.in/ (for prospectus, model question papers and other details)

BEFORE THE 28th ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL, BANGALORE, (CCH-29)
P & S.C. No.25027 / Hg: 27-5-2022

PETITIONER:-
MR. ORINDOM BANERJEE, Aged 50 years, Son of late Amitabha Banerjee, presently residing at No. 451/28/401/9/ F–104, "Pioneer Residency", Plot No. 09, Survey No. 4/4, Vth Phase, J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 078. **And also at:** Unit Number 4032, IIIrd Floor, Tower No.4, Prestige Lake Ridge- Phase II, Turahalli Road, Yadalam Nagar, Subramanyapura, Bengaluru-560 061.

-Versus-

RESPONDENT/S:- NIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a petition has been made to this Court under **Section 278 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925**, for grant of Letters of Administration to the **Amitabha Banerjee,** who was residing at No. 451/28/401/19/ F- 104 "Pioneer Residency", Plot No. 09, Survey No. 4/4, Vth Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 078, who died intestate on 05/12/2011.

Be it known that No Caveat has been entered and the said petition is posted for hearing on **27-5-2022** at 11 'O' Clock. Any person/s claiming to have any interest may come and participate in the proceedings before grant of Letters of Administration to the Estate of the late **Amitabha Banerjee.**

ANNEXURE "A"
VALUATION OF THE MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTY OF DECEASED:

	Rs. P.
I. MOVABLE PROPERTY CONSISTING OF	
(i) Cash in hand :	Rs. 7,500/-
(ii) Amount in State Bank of India: Bankura District of West Bengal	Rs. 60,000/-
(iii) Household goods wearing , apparel, books, plates, jewels etc (approximately)	Rs. 15,000/-
SUB TOTAL:	Rs.60,22,500/-
II. PROPERTY IN GOVERNMENTSECURITIES TRANSFERABLE AT PUBLIC DEBT OFFICE	**NIL**
III. IMMOVABLE PROPERTY	
A one half undivided share, right title, interest and claim in all that piece and parcel of immovable property being premises bearing No. 451/28/401/9/ F – 104, "Pioneer Residency", Plot No. 09, Survey No. 4/4, Vth Phase, J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru –560 078 and constructed on the aforesaid plot which is bounded as follows **ON THE EAST BY:** Road, **ON THE WEST BY:** Private Road **ON THE NORTH BY:** Site No.8, **ON THE SOUTH BY:** Site No.10, and measuring East to West 57 +67 feet/2 or 17.37 meters +20.63/2 meters and North to South 92 +88 feet/2 or 28.04 meters +26.82/2 meters with a total area of 5580 square feet or 518.587 square metres.	**Rs.32,50,000.00**
IV. LEASEHOLD PROPERTY	**NIL**
V. PROPERTY IN PUBLIC COMPANIES	**NIL**
VI. POLICIES OF INSURANCE UPON LIFE, MONEY OUT ON MORTGAGE AND OTHER SECURITIES, SUCH AS BONDS, BILLS, AND OTHER SECURITIES FOR MONEY	NIL
VII. DEBTS	**NIL**
VIII. STOCK IN TRADE	**NIL**
IX. OTHER PROPERTY COMPRISED UNDER THE FORGOING HEADS	NIL
TOTAL	**Rs.92,72,500/-**
LESS:	
Deduct items shown in Annexure "B" in manner provided in Sub Section (2) of Section 53	Rs. 2,54,500/-
NET VALUE OF ESTATE	**Rs.90,18,000/-**

ANNEXURE
SCHEDULE OF DEBTS

I. Amount of debts due and owing from the deceased, legally payable out of the estate	**Rs. 4,500/-**
II. Amount of expenses connected with medical treatment to the deceased during his death bed illness, funeral rites and ceremonies, approximately	**Rs. 2,50,000/-**
III. Amount of mortgage encumbrances	**NIL**
IV. Property held in trust not beneficially or with general power to confer a beneficial interest	**NIL**
V. Other property not subject to duty	**NIL**
TOTAL	**Rs. 2,54,500/-**

Advocates for Petitioner
Messers Rego & Rego
N-509, Manipal Centre,47/73,
Dickenson Road, Bangalore-560 042
Ph. No. 9845004670

By Order of Court
Sd/-
Assistant Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayo Hall Unit, Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to general public that my client intends to enter into a Joint Development Agreement in respect of the Schedule Property with its present owners namely **(1) MRS. RADHIKA SHRIDHAR EKBOTE,** daughter of Mr. S H Laxminarayan and wife of Mr. Shridhar Muralidhar Ekbote, permanently residing at RH-2, Aastha, Priyanka Park, Lane 4, Srinath Nagar, Nr. Amar Business Centre, Baner, Pune -411045 **(2) MRS. RENUKA L. SAVASERE,** aged about 50 years, daughter of Mr. S H Laxminarayan and wife of Mr. Mohd Sharique Farooqi, permanently residing at KM 201, Tower 52, Kosmos, Jaypee Wishtown, Sector 134, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201304.

All persons/ banks/financial institutions/ firms etc having or claiming any right, title, estate or interest by way of inheritance, share, sale, mortgage, transfer, lease, tenancy, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, devise, bequest, exchange, pre-emption, possession or encumbrance or otherwise howsoever into or upon the Schedule Property herein below described are called upon to intimate the same in writing to the undersigned at the below given address along with all the documents relating to such claim within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any such claim of any party shall be deemed to have been waived for all legal practical purposes and shall not be entertained hereafter and I shall opine that the Schedule Property is free of any claims and my client will be free to proceed with the development of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of **Municipal No. 1-9,** situated at **Old Madras Road, Byapanahalli, Bengaluru 560 049,** (earlier situated at NGEF Premises near Krishnaiana Palya, Bangalore), measuring East to West: 58 feet 8 inches and North to South: 82 feet, in all measuring **4810 square feet,** together with a house thereon measuring 1400 sq ft of built up area, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:

East by : House bearing No. 1 - 10
West by : House bearing No. 1 - 8
North by : NGEF Land
South by : Road

Vivek Anand Anthony Britto
Vir Anthony Britto
Advocates
No.168, 9th Cross, Indiranagar I Stage
Bengaluru - 560038.
Place: Bengaluru Date: 25.04.2022

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Government of India
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (Meity)
UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY OF INDIA
Technology Centre, Bengaluru

Vacancy circular for the post of Deputy Director General (JS equivalent) on deputation basis (Foreign Service term) in Technology Centre, Bengaluru.

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) invites applications for filling up of one anticipated vacancy for the post of Deputy Director General (JS equivalent) in Pay Matrix Level 14 (Pay Band Rs. 1,44,200 – 2,18,200) on deputation basis on Foreign Service terms at UIDAI, Technology Centre. **(https://uidai.gov.in/images/careenDDG_VC.pdf)**

The applications may be furnished in the prescribed proforma and forwarded to **Assistant Director General (HR), Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), 4th Floor, Bangla Sahib Road, Behind Kali Mandir, Gole Market, New Delhi-110001.** The last date for receipt of applications complete in all respects is **02.05.2022.** Application may also be sent through mail on email id: deputation@uidai.net.in. Since this vacancy is to be filled up on deputation basis, private candidates are not eligible.

Application received after the last date or otherwise or otherwise found incomplete shall not be considered. Further details may be obtained from the website **www.uidai.gov.in**

Sd/- Deputy Director (Admin)

New Aadhaar Enrollment & Updation Facilities can also be availed at Aadhaar Seva Kendra (ASK). To locate one near you, visit UIDAI.GOV.IN or call 1947

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
LOWER SUKTEL IRRIGATION PROJECT, BALANGIR, AT- LALTIKRA,
DIST :- BALANGIR, PIN-767002. email-Id- ccelsp@gmail.com
Government of Odisha, "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No. 03/2022-23 of CCE, LSP, Balangir

i	Name of Work	CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT CONCRETE DRAIN OF MAIN & BRANCH ROAD IN RR COLONY LARKIPALI & SADEIPALI (BLOCK-C) OF LSIP, BALANGIR
ii	Estimated Cost	Rs.1,14,42,067.00
iii	Period of Completion	7 (Seven) Calendar Months
iv	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	25.04.2022 at 10.30 AM
v	Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal	11.05.2022 up to 5.30 PM
vi	Name & Address of the Officer Inviting Bid	Chief Construction Engineer, Lower Suktel Irrigation Project, Balangir, At-Laltikra, Dist. : Balangir, PIN - 767002

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal **http://tendersodisha.gov.in.** Any corrigendum / addendum / cancellation will be displayed in the Govt. Website only.

Chief Construction Engineer, Lower Suktel Project, Balangir.

A-93 OIPR-32333/11/0005/2223

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
Office of the Registrar, Lingasugur Road, UAS Raichur - 584 104, Karnataka Telephone: 08532-220157, Fax: 08532-220360

No: R/UASR/Rectt./2022-23/1331 Dated: 21.04.2022

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Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for various vacant posts of Officers in UAS, Raichur. The complete details can be accessible from the official website (http://www.uasraichur.edu.in) of UAS, Raichur. Last date for submission of application for the posts of Officers is 19-05-2022 at 5.00 PM.

By Order,
Sd/- **Registrar, UAS Raichur**

DIP/Raichur/38/MC&A/2022-23

Data, interrupted

Reviving the official household spending survey is only a first step

India's official statistical machinery is gearing up to relaunch the All-India Household Consumer Expenditure Survey, traditionally undertaken quinquennially, from July 2022. If it fructifies, the result may be known towards the latter half of 2024, provided the Government permits the release. The last such Survey (2017-18), did not get such a sanction – its results reportedly indicated the first fall in monthly per-capita spending by households since 1972-73, with rural households facing a sharper decline compared to 2011-12. The Statistics Ministry had flagged 'discrepancies', 'data quality issues' and 'divergences' between estimated consumption levels and the actual output of goods and services. While it had sought to scuttle suggestions that unflattering data were being obfuscated, a better course of action would have been to release the data with caveats. It could have argued, for instance, that the numbers, at best, reflect the short-term impact of the 'bold structural reforms' carried out in the year preceding the Survey, to 'formalise' the economy – demonetisation and the GST. A fresh survey could then have been commissioned later for a clearer picture. This is what the UPA had done in 2011-12 to measure employment and consumer spending levels afresh, after the 2009-10 Surveys were affected by the global financial crisis and a severe drought that hit rural incomes.

The Government had promised to examine the 'feasibility' of a fresh Consumer Spending Survey, over 2020-21 and 2021-22, after 'incorporating all data quality refinements' mooted by a panel. One hopes the exact 'refinements' are spelt out upfront in the upcoming Survey. Of equal import is providing data comparable with past numbers, while factoring in changes in consumption patterns; and it may still not be too late to release the previous Survey's findings to help assess longer term trends. The absence of official data on such a critical aspect of the economy – used to estimate poverty levels, rebase GDP, and to make private investment decisions – for over a decade, is damaging to India. Being a free-market and transparent democracy distinguished India from the likes of China where official data are read with a pinch of salt. The Government's actions, including the delayed release of critical jobs data, have dulled that perception. If anything, such Surveys need to be conducted more frequently for more effective policy actions informed by ground realities, no matter how unpleasant they may be. Now, imperfect proxies are deployed to gauge the economy, surmises made about the extinction of extreme poverty, and outlays are tommed without evidence on outcomes. The NSO must be empowered to collect and disseminate more data points, without fear of insinuations about its abilities, or a looming axe on its regular Surveys.

Victory and challenge

Macron needs to address disaffection among the working classes to deal with the far-right

The re-election of Emmanuel Macron in Sunday's presidential race is a relief not just for France's political centrists but also for its allies in Europe and America. The election took place amid crises – high inflation; Russia's invasion of Ukraine that pushed France into a difficult choice of imposing sanctions on Moscow even at the cost of higher energy prices; and growing political disillusionment among the country's youth. The first round had seen the far-right rising to its highest ever levels – Marine Le Pen and Éric Zemmour together gathered more than 30% of votes. Yet, Mr. Macron secured a decisive victory in Sunday's run-off, with 58.5% vote share against Ms. Le Pen's 41.5%, showing that the centre can still hold in France. The banker-turned politician, who emerged as the surprise champion of French Republican values against an upsurge of far-right populism five years ago, managed to rally the anti-populist base once more. He went to the voters with three broad themes: his administration's economic performance, a defence of France's Republican values and support for European sovereignty. While France's quick return to growth and low unemployment rate helped him project a convincing macroeconomic picture, his attack on Ms. Le Pen as a threat to the French Republican values and the tough line he took on Ukraine allowed him to mobilise the liberal, centre-right and pro-European sections of voters.

Mr. Macron's victory offers stability for both France and the EU. But a closer look at the two rounds of elections provides a more complicated picture. The French political landscape, historically dominated by the centre-right conservatives and centre-left socialists, has undergone a major transformation. Mr. Macron has emerged as the poster boy of the centrist bloc, the largely status-quoist voters. And his key challengers are from the far-right, which has anti-Semitic and Islamophobic roots. The third bloc is led by leftist Jean-Luc Mélenchon, who finished third in the first round. The surge of the far-right and leftist candidates suggests that there is widespread voter anger towards the establishment. And the far-right populists, with their cocktail of anti-establishment welfarism and anti-immigrant rhetoric, seem to be better-equipped to tap this anger than the leftists. Ms. Le Pen may not be strong enough, as of now, to capture power, but she was strong enough to pose a credible challenge to Mr. Macron. In his victory speech, Mr. Macron admitted that there is growing anger among sections of the voters towards the political establishment and promised to tackle it. Going forward, his biggest challenge would be to reach out to the disaffected sections of society, address the growing anger in the underbelly of the working classes, and build credible alternatives to the far-right problem.

The troubled innings of a Pakistan Prime Minister

Imran Khan's brand of populism may well thrive despite his fall, even as Pakistan dreams of a progressive politics

AASIM SAJJAD AKHTAR

Imran Khan promised to end Pakistan's tryst with 'corrupt' and 'dynastic' politicians. He insisted that his government would restore Pakistan's sovereignty, breaking the International Monetary Fund (IMF) begging bowl forever, and never again acceding to the role of frontline state in 'America's wars'. He prided himself as a born-again Muslim who would free Pakistani society from the vice-like grip of a decadent western pop culture.

The army has the reins

In the end, it was the proverbial elephant in the room that he dared not name – Pakistan's pre-eminent political-economic force, the army – that ended his prime ministerial crusade. Mr. Khan may have been formally deposed through a Supreme Court-assisted vote of no-confidence in Pakistan's lower house of Parliament in early April, but it is an open secret that his fall came after falling foul of the army's top brass which, less than four years earlier, had facilitated his ascent to the country's top elected office. It is said that the generals had planned for Mr. Khan to be in power for two consecutive five-year terms; as it turned out, their patience ran out even before the end of the first one.

There is nothing novel about a Pakistani Prime Minister going out kicking and screaming having lost favour with the army. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, his daughter Benazir Bhutto, and Nawaz Sharif, among others, have all suffered a similar fate. With the exception of the nine-year military regime of General Pervez Musharraf, the Bhuttos and the Sharifs had alternated stints in government for the best part of 30 years before Mr. Khan's ascension as Prime Minister in 2018. On each occasion, they had agreed to uneasy power-sharing arrangements with the army, only for the army to subsequently engineer their unceremonious downfall.

Imran Khan was supposed to be different. A cricket World Cup-winning captain with no political lineage, he represented the perfect foil for unelected apparatuses of the state that, in the revered colonial tradition, vilified politics while eulogising 'clean and efficient' administrative order. When the Musharraf dictatorship collapsed in 2008 under the weight of its own contradictions, ushered out by a lawyer-led street movement, Mr. Khan's grooming by the military establishment began in earnest.

In 2013, his Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf (PTI) party acquired governmental power for the first time in war-torn Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. While victory was formally secured at the ballot box, the establishment joined the fray by cajoling 'electables' – constituency-level politicians whose primary objective is to sit on the treasury benches – into joining the PTI. By the time the next general election rolled around in 2018, the PTI had enough electables in its ranks to cobble together a coalition, and with it the reins of the federal government.

Demographic factors

Yet, the PTI's rise cannot be explained only by the machinations of the unelected apparatuses of state. Pakistan's urbane, educated classes have always been enamoured by strong men who promise to clean the Augean stables. Generals and judges were the archetype, but Imran Khan fit the bill even better.

The messiah complex around Imran Khan's persona was greatly enabled by both demographic and technological change. Almost two-thirds of Pakistan's over 220 million people are below the age of

REUTERS

29. This majority has come of age as digitalisation has transformed political communication. Able and willing to articulate their political preferences beyond the constraints of socially entrenched patronage networks, many young people believed in the hype around Mr. Khan's persona. These tech-savvy and often militant supporters used social media platforms to propagate the PTI as a genuine alternative to status quo in a manner not dissimilar to other contemporary right-wing populists as diverse as Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Donald Trump.

A waning

For the first three years after Imran Khan became Prime Minister, the army played along. The combination of digitally mobilised PTI supporters and the state's own propaganda machinery translated into ever intensifying censorship of the media, progressive intellectuals and people's movements, as well as the two main Opposition parties, the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). But dissenting voices refused to go away, while the PTI government predictably made concession after concession to big business – including the army-run ones – and after reneging on its rhetoric about foreign aid, acceded completely to the IMF's arm-twisting. The Opposition was thus able to stoke public discontent, particularly in the dominant Punjab province where former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif teleconferenced hard-hitting speeches from the comfortable confines of self-exile in London.

Yet, given the long leash he had been granted, Imran Khan may still have survived, and even thrived. But the cat was set among the pigeons when, in October 2021, he refused to sign off on a summary issued by Pakistan Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa notifying a new spy chief at the power Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). The story goes that the Prime Minister wanted the incumbent, Lt. General Faiz Hameed, to retain his office for long enough to see the PTI through another general election. Imran Khan resisted for almost three weeks, eventually acceding to the change. But it was too late; challenging the autonomy of the army proved to be Mr. Khan's death knell.

Shehbaz Sharif at the helm

The resulting domino effect eventually culminated in his ouster and Nawaz Sharif's younger brother and three-time Chief Minister of Punjab, Shehbaz Sharif, taking oath as the new Prime Minister. Having historically enjoyed more cordial ties with the establishment than his brother Nawaz Sharif, Shehbaz Sharif will be charged with steadying the ship and getting the country through to the next general election which must take place at the latest by the summer of 2024.

But what can be done to steady a ship on permanently choppy waters? In which a bloated national security apparatus acts as an arbiter of politics; where perpetual upward redistribution of wealth implicates all major political players and an exponential debt burden, and where anti-establishment political sentiment tends largely to be captured by reactionary forces, not least of all religious militants?

Indeed, even before he was deposed, Imran Khan himself had taken a leaf out of the copybook of the religious right by exclaiming that the Opposition parties were conspiring with the United States to unseat him. The palace intrigues that followed could not save him, but his narrative of a Washington-backed regime change has persisted. Intriguingly, while Mr. Khan himself has avoided direct criticism of the army, his supporters have minced no words about the top brass's decision to withdraw support to the PTI and instead patronise the 'corrupt' and 'dynastic' politicians that the Imran Khan phenomenon was supposed to relegate to the dustbin of history once and for all.

Thread in the neighbourhood

Once upon a time, not so long ago, Pakistan was the black sheep of South Asia. A country ruled by generals for half its existence, religion weaponised in the nooks and crannies of society to deadly effect, and a militarised economy perpetually teetering on the brink of collapse. Today, as it grapples with yet another civilian government falling out with the military establishment, Pakistan's predicament is eerily similar to its neighbours. In Sri Lanka, a former army officer has run the country into the ground along with his strong-arm brothers, while in India the regime is ever more reliant on the violent sidelining of certain minorities even as its regime of accumulation immiserates bigger segments of a predominantly young population.

Populists thrive on the politics of hate. Imran Khan lives on, perhaps in the hope that he can once again win the favour of the army. Only when a genuinely progressive politics takes root within Pakistan's – and, indeed, South Asia's – youthful majority, may we expect a meaningful twist in this sordid tale.

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar is Associate Professor of Political Economy at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, and has been affiliated with progressive political movements in Pakistan for over two decades

The goal of an energy-secure South Asia

While universal coverage can catalyse the region's economic growth, energy trade must be linked to peace building

SYED MUNIR KHASRU

South Asia has almost a fourth of the global population living on 5% of the world's landmass. Electricity generation in South Asia has risen exponentially, from 340 terawatt hours (TWh) in 1990 to 1,500 TWh in 2015. Bangladesh has achieved 100% electrification recently while Bhutan, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka accomplished this in 2019. For India and Afghanistan, the figures are 94.4% and 97.7%, respectively, while for Pakistan it is 73.91%. Bhutan has the cheapest electricity price in South Asia (U.S.$0.036 per kilowatt hour, or kWh) while India has the highest (U.S.$0.08 per kWh.) The Bangladesh government has significantly revamped power production resulting in power demands from 4,942 kWh in 2009 to 25,514 MW as of 2022. India is trying to make a transition to renewable energy to provide for 40% of total consumption, while Pakistan is still struggling to reduce power shortage negatively impacting its economy.

The electricity policies of South Asian countries aim at providing electricity to every household. The objective is to supply reliable and quality electricity in an efficient manner, at reasonable rates and to protect consumer interests. The issues these address include generation, transmission, distribution, rural electrification, research and development, environmental issues, energy conservation and human resource training.

Geographical differences between these countries call for a different approach depending on resources. While India relies heavily on coal, accounting for nearly 55% of its electricity production, 99.9% of Nepal's energy comes from hydropower, 75% of Bangladesh's power production relies on natural gas, and Sri Lanka leans on oil, spending as much as 6% of its GDP on importing oil.

Electrification, growth, SDGs

Given that a 0.46% increase in energy consumption leads to a 1% increase in GDP per capita, electrification not only helps in improving lifestyle but also adds to the aggregate economy by improving the nation's GDP. For middle-income countries, the generation of power plays an essential role in the economic growth of the country. More electricity leads to increased investment and economic activities within and outside the country, which is a more feasible option as opposed to other forms of investments such as foreign direct investment.

The South Asian nations have greatly benefited from widening electricity coverage across industries and households. For example, 50.3% of Bangladesh's GDP comes from industrial and agricultural sectors which cannot function efficiently without electricity. Nepal's GDP growth of an average of 7.3% since the earthquake in 2015 is due to rapid urbanisation aided by increased consumption of electricity. On the other hand, Pakistan suffered a drop in industrialisation of textiles by 9.22%, wiping off U.S.$12.4 billion from the industry in 2014 due to power shortages. India leads South Asia in adapting to renewable power, with its annual demand for power increasing by 6%.

Solar power-driven electrification in rural Bangladesh is a huge step towards Sustainable Development Goal 7 (which is "Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all") by 2030 and engaging more than 1,00,000 female solar entre-

GETTY IMAGES

preneurs in Sustainable Development Goal 5 (which is "achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls"). India's pledge to move 40% of total energy produced to renewable energy is also a big step. Access to electricity improves infrastructure i.e., SDG 9 (which is "build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation"). Energy access helps online education through affordable Internet (SDG 4, or "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"), more people are employed (SDG 1: "no poverty"), and are able to access tech-based health solutions (SDG 3, or "ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages").

Green growth, green energy

South Asian leaders are increasingly focused on efficient, innovative and advanced methods of energy production for 100% electrification. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his 'net zero by 2070' pledge at COP26 in Glasgow asserted India's target to increase the capacity of renewable energy from 450GW to 500GW by 2030. South Asia has vast renewable energy resources – hydropower, solar, wind, geothermal and biomass – which can be harnessed for domestic use as well as regional power trade. The first-ever Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) benefits such as poverty reduction, energy efficiency and improved quality of life were realised when there was India-Bhutan hydro trade in 2010.

The region is moving towards green growth and energy as India hosts the International Solar Alliance. In Bangladesh, rural places that are unreachable with traditional grid-based electricity have 45% of their power needs met through a rooftop solar panel programme which is emulated in other parts of the world. This is an important step in achieving Bangladesh's nationally determined contributions target of 10% renewable energy of total power production.

Regional energy trade

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) prepared the regional energy cooperation framework in 2014, but its implementation is questionable. However, there are a number of bilateral and multilateral energy trade agreements such as the India-Nepal petroleum pipeline deal, the India-Bhutan hydroelectric joint venture, the Myanmar-Bangladesh-India gas pipeline, the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) sub-regional framework for energy cooperation, and the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline, rumoured to be extended to Bangladesh.

'South Asia's regional geopolitics is determined by the conflation of identity, politics, and international borders. Transnational energy projects would thus engage with multiple social and ideational issues' which is a major limitation for peaceful energy trade. If energy trade is linked and perceived through the lens of conflict resolution and peace building, then a regional security approach with a broader group of stakeholders could help smoothen the energy trade process. The current participation in cross-border projects has been restricted to respective tasks, among Bhutan and India or Nepal and India. It is only now that power-sharing projects among the three nations, Nepal, India, and Bangladesh, have been deemed conceivable.

India exports 1,200MW of electricity to Bangladesh, sufficient for almost 25% of the daily energy demand, with a significant amount from the Kokrajhar power plant in Assam worth U.S.$470 million. Bhutan exports 70% of its own hydropowered electricity to India worth almost U.S.$100 million. Nepal on the other hand, not only sells its surplus hydroelectricity to India but also exported fossil fuel to India worth U.S.$1.2 billion.

What is needed

South Asia is reinforcing its transmission and distribution frameworks to cater to growing energy demand not only through the expansion of power grids but also by boosting green energy such as solar power or hydroelectricity. Going forward, resilient energy frameworks are what are needed such as better building-design practices, climate-proof infrastructure, a flexible monitory framework, and an integrated resource plan that supports renewable energy innovation. Government alone cannot be the provider of reliable and secure energy frameworks, and private sector investment is crucial. In 2022, private financing accounted for 44% of household power in Bangladesh, 48.5% in India, and 53% in Pakistan. Public-private partnership can be a harbinger in meeting the energy transition challenges for the world's most populous region.

Syed Munir Khasru is Chairman of the international think tank, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG), New Delhi, India with a presence in Dhaka, Melbourne, Vienna and Dubai. E-mail: munir.khasru@ipag.org

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Ineffective

The developmental measures introduced, and on the anvil, for Jammu and Kashmir (Page 1 and Editorial, both April 25) might reduce *Dilli ki doori* (distance from Delhi) but it remains a billion dollar question whether they would reduce *dil ki doori* (distance from the heart). The Prime Minister knows, or must know, that "Man doesn't live by bread alone". The hostility towards the present dispensation lingers... even the promise of the restoration of statehood remains a mirage.

AYYASSERI RAVEENDRANATH, Aranmula, Kerala

New role

While the credentials of Prashant Kishor as an election strategist are undisputed, it would be interesting to see the kind of role he assumes, if inducted into the Congress. Having worked for political parties with conflicting ideologies, and quite successfully so, he does understand the pulse of the voter. But the voter's perception of Mr. Kishor remains unestablished. While some people do look up to him for his political acumen, he also comes across as a sellsword who offers his services to the highest bidder, by representing parties across the spectrum. His transition from a poll strategist to a full-time politician will not be too difficult given that he has already mastered the art of party-hopping – the most important attribute required of a politician in today's political landscape.

DEEPAK PRABHAKAR, Chennai

The new violent India

What was isolated and seen as aberrations in India is now in plain sight in the 21st century, begging the question if we are truly modern

C. RAMMANOHAR REDDY

A Muslim man watches from his house after a shop was demolished in Jahangirpuri in New Delhi. • AP

A picture on social media last week said so much about India today. Wasim Shaikh of Khargone in Madhya Pradesh stands in front of a piece of land cleared of a settlement. Shaikh's 'gumti' or tiny grocery shop was razed to the ground on April 11 because he was said to have thrown stones during a communal riot a day earlier. Shaikh has no arms; he lost them in an accident in 2005. This does not matter. He is a Muslim in an area where there was violence and that is enough reason for the state to destroy his only source of income.

This is where India is heading, or where India has already reached. A society seemingly without humanity, which is violent, targets minorities, and has the state acting above the law.

The 'naya' India

Our 'naya' India is one of revenge and hate towards an imagined other. It is one where governments do not administer the law but flout it. It is one where, across India, gangs go about terrorising Muslims and if a riot ensues, the administration follows by destroying homes and workplaces of Muslims. It is one where the leadership of the dominant political party is silent – because this violence solidifies hate and reaps electoral dividends. It is one where the police seek guidance not to uphold peace but from what the political mood wants of it. It is one where the victims of violence are turned into suspects and thrown into jail without bail. It is one where courts often look the other way, or do nothing more than rap governments on the knuckles. And it is one where across all classes, those who are otherwise recognised as decent people feel a sense of satisfaction and even take pleasure at this violence against their fellow citizens. This is where we are as we celebrate 75 years as an independent nation.

The "demolition of law", which is the best way to describe this bulldozer violence, comes with a fig leaf of legitimacy, of the clearing of illegally-occupied land. This everyone knows is only a cover for the fake news factories and the WhatsApp University to argue that the "law must follow its course". This form of governance is supposed to have made the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh very popular. Now others are copying it. Gujarat is practising it and Madhya Pradesh has enthusiastically followed and both States head to the polls over the next 18 months. This new weapon reached Delhi last week, where the local administration, citing a technicality, was able to cock a snook at the Supreme Court, no less, for a couple of hours.

The bulldozer violence is the latest step in the march of state-encouraged communal violence across India. It is worsening by the day and what is shocking today becomes routine tomorrow. Lynching, and economic boycotts are now passé. New horrors pile on top of the old which have been forgotten. Who now remembers the 2015 lynching of Mohammed Akhlaq in Dadri, or the murder of 15-year-old Junaid in 2017 on his way home during Eid? Or even from just seven months ago of Moinul Haque of Assam, shot by the police when clearing "encroachments" and whose body was then stomped on by a photographer hired to record the events?

Now the open calls for killings of Muslims have become routine. When the first such event took place in Haridwar late last year, the local police were stirred to act half-heartedly. Now a police report in Delhi can boldly claim that such public calls for mass killings are only about protecting one's religion.

Do we need to fear mass killings? As many have pointed out, you do not need to organise gruesome single-event communal violence, when the same result can be achieved with "1,000 cuts every day". Across the country, even if mainly in the north and now in Karnataka too, there are gangs of volunteers to whom the work of harassment, intimidation and local killing has been "outsourced". They are "freelancers"; they may not be a part of any political party and they may not receive any directions from political functionaries, but they have absorbed the poison of bigotry and do the work expected of them (https://tinyurl.com/2p8d6cn9).

Votes on communal lines

The actions of these vigilantes whip up hate and fear of the other, which, in turn, consolidates voter support that delivers election after election. It is not welfarism (*labhartees*, the word in Hindi for beneficiaries of government programmes) that is deciding elections. It is the consolidation of the vote on communal lines, plain and simple. It is pointless to ask the political leadership to speak out against mob violence when it is a part of a larger political atmosphere that has been harnessed so successfully at the polls.

If the mob is now free to target one minority, it will soon be emboldened to go after others. Which religious minority will be next? Which 'lower' caste will be next? The violence of vigilantes that is being carried out under the benign gaze of the state cannot be controlled. Soon it will outgrow its masters and India will end up reaping the whirlwind.

Pen-pushers like this writer think they can stir people's conscience against the catastrophe that awaits us. But we are mistaken, we are impotent in the face of this tidal wave of violence that is driven by the ideology of revenge, muscular nationalism and inhumanity. All in the name of "righting historical wrongs". The intense hatred of Muslims that is now being fanned is just another layer on top of the centuries-old violence against Dalits. It has brought to the surface a certain face of India that we did not want to acknowledge.

To modify the observations of the historian Upinder Singh, the messages of 'shanti' that Mahavira, Buddha, Ashoka and Gandhi preached were exceptions in the history of a couple of thousand years of a violent society. The violence of India is now there for us to see in full force in the 21st century, in what is supposed to be a modern nation governed by an exceptional Constitution.

There are exceptions and it is those strands of humanity that we must latch on to and hope that we will emerge from this tunnel. Like Madhulika Rajput of Karauli, Rajasthan, who gave protection to a dozen young Muslims and stood up to a gang that sought entry looking for Muslims (https://tinyurl.com/yu2b5sb8). Or the young Hindu shopkeeper in Jahangirpuri in Delhi who told a reporter, "I am a Hindu, he is a Muslim...we are friends, we help each other in distress...the mob is out to destroy our lives. I will stand, even if alone, in front of the masjid to protect it if a bulldozer comes to destroy it" (https://tinyurl.com/262fum2r).

We can only pin our hopes on the strength and conviction of such Hindu brothers and sisters.

C. Rammanohar Reddy is Editor of The India Forum

Anchoring inflationary expectations

Actual individual experiences shape economic behaviour

BHASKAR J. KASHYAP & ARUP MITRA

Milton Friedman famously said, 'Inflation is taxation without legislation.' The impact of inflation – the overall increase in the prices in an economy – is felt by everyone. High inflation adversely affects the poor. Individuals, therefore, form expectations about how prices will behave in the future to take precautions. If they anticipate high inflation, they negotiate wages or rents to compensate against a potential fall in their purchasing power. Increased wages increase the cost of production, making expectations self-fulfilling and, therefore, playing a pivotal role in determining inflation.

The RBI released the Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH) for March 2022 on April 8. The results on the inflation expectations are based on responses from around 6,000 urban households surveyed in 19 major cities. The release coincides with the completion of two years from the period of the first lockdown in March 2020. The last two years of surveys, therefore, capture individuals' perceptions during the three waves of COVID-19.The survey results present interesting behavioural insights for public policy, particularly from a gender perspective.

High inflationary expectations

Central banks raise interest rates to 'anchor' high inflationary expectations when temporary price shocks, on account of drought or disruption in global supply chains, entail the risk of getting transmitted into actual inflation. To what extent can a raise in interest rates reduce high inflationary expectations? One must cautiously examine factors behind inflation expectations since any misreading could lead to perverse policy decisions.

A significant factor shaping perceptions on inflation are the prices that individuals observe in their daily lives, originally posited by Robert Lucas in his seminal Islands model. A recent study carried out by Acunto et al., 2020, validates that what agents frequently purchase, instead of those purchased infrequently, shape their perception of the general level of inflation. Goods purchased frequently such as groceries tend to be low-priced and highly volatile in comparison to those which are bought seldom. In other words, the prices of the lower-priced potatoes, milk, or apples frequently purchased shape the aggregate inflation expectations more than that of infrequent purchase of a high-priced car. Therefore, generalising aggregate inflation expectations for making general views of prices in the economy could be misleading. This insight has implications for gender-based differences in anticipating inflation in the future. Existing literature shows that women have higher inflationary expectations compared to men. Economic theories explain this divergence by stating that women are 'more pessimistic' than men, attributing the pessimism to the difference in their innate characteristics and lack of education. However, a new study reveals that it is not the innate characteristics as much as the traditional gender roles that explain this divergence.

'Natural experiments'

To test its validity, trends of Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH) before and after the lockdown period present itself as a crude 'natural experiment'. Natural experiments are real-life circumstances that can be studied to determine the cause-and-effect relationship among sections of people with different exposure levels to an assumed causal factor. The authors hypothesise that if traditional gender roles are the primary reasons behind the gender inflation expectation gap, then the lockdown-imposed work-from-home (WFH) arrangements or loss of employment should contribute in closing this gap. The logic: during the lockdown, people in urban areas lost jobs or remained at home, taking a relatively equal share in the frequent day-to-day purchases.

Two categories of occupations are studied here: homemakers (assumed to be dominated by women) and financial sector employees (assumed to be dominated by men). Looking at the trends of the RBI surveys for the period between March 2018 and March 2020, homemakers report higher inflation expectations than financial sector employees. However, this gap has narrowed over the last two years and has almost converged in March 2022. A possible explanation of closing of the gap could be the gradual 'experience effect' of male-dominated financial sector employees. Experience effect, contrary to Rational Expectations Theory that assumes individuals base their decisions on the information available to them, is based on the premise that actual personal experiences shape behaviour more than being informed about the outcome of the event. Focus therefore, could be shifted more on the microfoundations – understanding macroeconomic outcomes by studying factors that shape individual behaviour and decision making – for making better policy decisions concerning macroeconomic phenomena.

Bhaskar J. Kashyap is Assistant Director, NITI Aayog. Dr. Arup Mitra is Professor of Economics, Institute of Economic Growth

YSRCP enters choppy waters

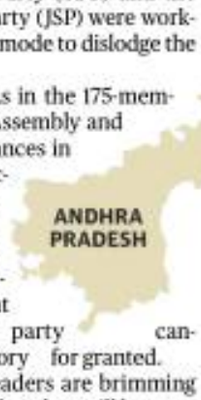
Assembly polls are two years away, but parties are gearing up for battle mode in Andhra Pradesh

V. RAGHAVENDRA

Elections in Andhra Pradesh (AP) are two years away but the ruling YSR Congress party (YSRCP) and the opposition parties seem to be already fine-tuning their strategies and making necessary course corrections to prepare for the polls.

The mood in the YSRCP has been a mixture of euphoria and disappointment, notably after the appointment of regional coordinators and district presidents and a major overhaul of the Cabinet which caused heartburn for some who underwent a role reversal from being Ministers to MLAs. Those disgruntled leaders were sought to be mollified, lest they switched loyalties at a time when the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the BJP-Jana Sena Party (JSP) were working on a mission mode to dislodge the YSRCP.

With 151 MLAs in the 175-member Legislative Assembly and strong performances in local body elections, the YSRCP is in the driver's seat, but since nothing is permanent in politics, the party cannot take victory for granted.



The YSRCP leaders are brimming with confidence but they will be committing a costly mistake if they brush aside the anti-incumbency factor. The YSRCP president and Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is wary of the renewed vigour with which TDP and BJP-JSP are attacking the government for taking certain policy decisions, many of which backfired, the 'three capitals' fiasco in particular, and for implementing fiscally imprudent welfare schemes that have imperilled the State's finances.

The financial implications of keeping the Amaravati (capital city) project in limbo, could soon take their toll, as even if the capital is shifted to Visakhapatnam, subject to courts clearing the move, the government would still have to compensate the huge losses incurred by thousands of farmers who gave away their lands under the pooling scheme. The YSRCP is, meanwhile, hopeful that the plethora of welfare schemes being largely delivered through village and ward secretariats has earned it a lot of goodwill. The party's electoral strategy also includes citing the impact of bifurcation of the erstwhile united State and the pandemic as reasons for the inability to achieve development on the scale that the party promised and the YSRCP also seeks to blame its predecessor TDP government for the failures.

Mr. Reddy is learnt to have prepared a plan to start visiting the districts soon in order to mobilise support for his party which is coming under pressure to deliver. On the other hand, the TDP is trying to take advantage of the failures of the YSRC government and is focusing on a host of issues which it believes will tilt the scales in its favour. But, to cover the lost ground is a formidable task for the opposition party as the YSRCP is still a force to reckon with. Though the TDP is in a position to successfully regroup again after some years of being down in the dumps, it faces challenges as some of its MLAs have extended tacit support to the YSCRP. Taking the tally of its MLAs from 23 to a number that puts it in the saddle is going to be difficult, if not impossible for the TDP.

The BJP and its ally JSP have meanwhile sought to focus on the work done by the Central government and to target the "corrupt governance" of the YSCRP regime. Besides this, the BJP and its State president Somu Veeraraju has been raking up sensitive issues related to alleged attacks on Hindu temples and religious institutions, in what is suggested as a ploy backed by the party's central high command. It is anybody's guess whether this would work in a State largely devoid of communal politics, but the BJP is straining every muscle to rake such issues.

It remains to be seen whether the chinks in the YSCRP armour are weak enough for a resurgent opposition to exploit in the next two years. The citizens of the State, meanwhile, are still hoping for the promises made to them during bifurcation to be fulfilled.

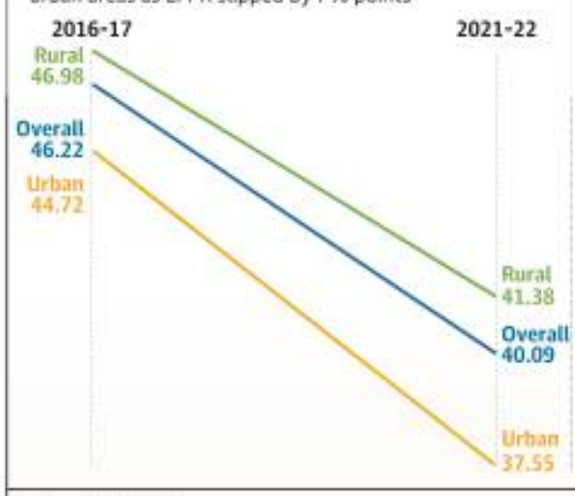
raghavendra.v@thehindu.co.in

DATA POINT

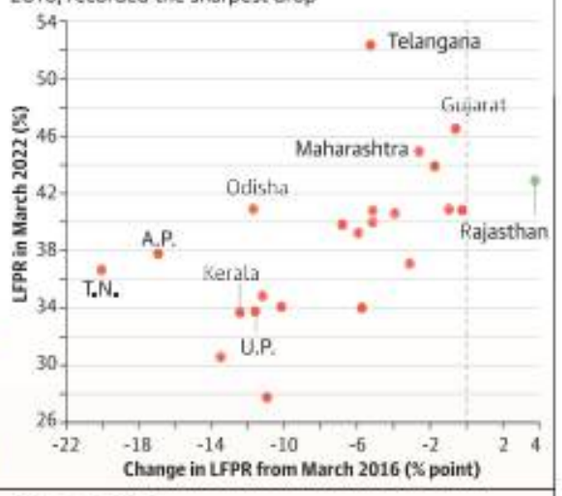
Declining labour force

India's labour force participation rate (LFPR) declined from 46% to 40% between 2016-17 and 2021-22, according to data from **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy.** This means that out of every 100 persons in the working-age population, only 40 were either working or looking for work in 2021-22. A State-wide analysis of LFPR in March 2016 and March 2022 shows that only one State, Rajasthan, recorded an overall increase in the participation rate. Southern States such as Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, which had the highest LFPR in March 2016, recorded the sharpest drop

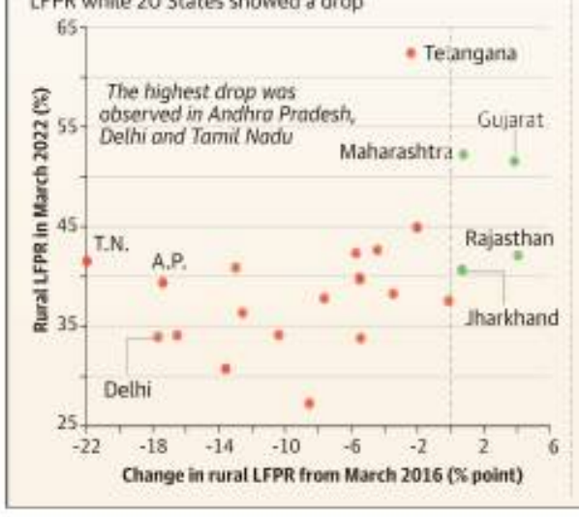
Overall decline | The chart shows India's urban, rural and overall LFPR in 2016-17 and 2021-22. The share of the population that participated in the economy either by working or looking for work dropped by 6 percentage points in 2022. The decline was more pronounced in urban areas as LFPR slipped by 7% points



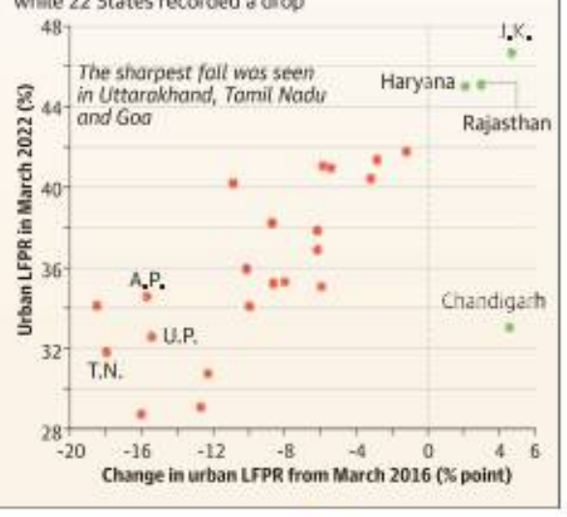
State-wise LFPR | The chart plots State-wise LFPR in March 2022 against the change in LFPR between March 2016 and March 2022. Barring Rajasthan, all States recorded a decline in 2022. Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, which had the highest LFPR in 2016, recorded the sharpest drop



Rural LFPR
The chart plots State-wise LFPR in rural areas in March 2022 against the change in LFPR in rural areas between March 2016 and March 2022. Only two States — Rajasthan and Gujarat — recorded a sizeable increase in LFPR while 20 States showed a drop



Urban LFPR
The chart plots State-wise LFPR in urban areas in March 2022 against the change in LFPR in urban areas between March 2016 and March 2022. Four States/UTs recorded an increase in LFPR, including Rajasthan and Haryana, while 22 States recorded a drop



The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 26, 1972

A temple with 33 million carvings

Madurai: It is estimated that there are 33 million carvings in the Shree Meenakshi Amman Temple at Madurai. This temple is the "encyclopaedia of all the Hindu dancing poses depicted both in stone and wood." The entrance to the shrine of Shree Meenakshi temple is flanked by two dwarapalakas or watchmen and on the doors are found some of the important dancing poses mentioned in the Natyasastra. Every inch of stone work inside the temple has a story to relate through carvings and paintings. For instance, one of the pillars shows Lord Siva coming out from the lingam (Lingodbhavamurti) and Brahma in the form of swan and Vishnu as a boar, boring the earth. This small carving relates a great story, which according to the Lingapurana is that once Brahma and Vishnu were at dispute over their respective greatness. And as they could not decide which of them was greater, the dispute was referred to Lord Siva for arbitration. Lord Siva gave them a test and said that he who finds the top and the bottom of the jyotilingam of Siva would be the greater of the two.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO APRIL 26, 1922

Malabar Hindus

The tragedy at Malabar has at long last opened the eyes of men who at first minimised the nature of the troubles there. The coming of outside people to help in the situation has drawn the attention of the whole of India to their duty towards Malabar. It is only then that the people throughout the length and breadth of the country realised the seriousness of the situation. There were cries for help and the people naturally imagined that everything was rightly done. If one goes to the interior parts of the country one can see face to face the miserable condition of the people despite the prompt actions taken by the authorities coupled with that of the other philanthropic body of men. The relieving work as at present carried on has taken the shape of helping the mappillas. So far as Hindus are concerned their position is most unhappy. Relief to them was suddenly stopped. Men, women and converts had nothing but to face starvation. There is not a single organisation to help them on behalf of the community. There might be some individual helpers. Fortunately to save the name of the Hindu South India the Arya Samaj came to the help.

FROM PAGE ONE

No limits to Russia-China ties, says EU chief

"They [sanctions] are embedded in a broader strategy that has diplomatic and security elements. And this is why we have designed the sanctions in a way to sustain them over a longer period of time. Because this gives us leverage to achieve a diplomatic solution that will bring lasting peace," she said.

Indicating Russia's strong ties with China, Ms. von der Leyen argued that the violence in Ukraine is generating ripples in the Indo-Pacific region. "China is a negotiating partner, an economic competitor and a systemic rival. We will continue to cooperate on tackling common challenges, and we will protect our essential interests and promote our values," said Ms. von der Leyen who earlier in the day met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and held a discussion with External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar. The visiting top official of the European Commission paid tributes to the democratic tradition of India and said that the "world watches with admiration" whenever India holds the general elections every five years.

The top representative of the European Commission said both India and the European Union share common interests in maintaining "safe trading routes, in seamless supply chains, and in a free and open Indo-Pacific."

CJI mulls listing of pleas on J&K special status

Since then, one of the judges on that Bench, Justice R. Subhash Reddy, has retired.

The petitions have challenged the Presidential Order of August 5, 2019 which blunted Article 370. The Article had accorded special rights and privileges to the people of Jammu and Kashmir since 1954 in accordance with the Instrument of Accession.

The various petitions, including ones by advocate M.L. Sharma and the National Conference (NC) party, have challenged the Centre's "unilateral" move to impose curfew and unravel the unique federal structure of India by dividing J&K "without taking consent from the people".

A separate petition by detained politician Shah Faesal and Shehla Rashid Shora, among others, have contended that the August 5 Order and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act of 2019 were arbitrary. They had also challenged the proclamation of President's Rule in the State in December 2018. The petitions said what happened to Jammu and Kashmir "goes to the heart of Indian federalism".

"National integration is best served by a pluralistic federal model. Under this model, one size need not always fit all," the petition filed by the NC said.

The petitions said the Presidential Order of August 5 substituted the concurrence of the Governor of the State government to change the very character of a federal unit. They said the Presidential Order took cover of a temporary situation, meant to hold the field until the return of the elected government, to accomplish a fundamental, permanent and irreversible alteration of the status of J&K without the concurrence, consultation or recommendation of the people of that State, acting through their elected representatives.

The government has countered that the Presidential Order of August 5 has become 'fait accompli'.

The government urged the court to not entertain any "separatist" arguments during the hearing of petitions challenging the August 5 order and the subsequent reorganisation of the State of J&K into two Union Territories.

SC seeks steps for children on streets

It tells States to follow NCPCR's norms for the time being

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the States and Union Territories (UTs) that have not yet framed their own policies to rehabilitate children in street situation (CISS) to immediately implement the Standard Operating Procedure for Care and Protection of Children in Street Situation 2.0 framed by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for the time being.

A Bench led by Justice L. Nageswara Rao said these States and Union Territories could follow the NCPCR's standard operating procedure (SOP) until they devised their own.

Children could not be made to suffer for the delay on the part of the States and Union Territories to form their rehabilitation policies, the court stated. Once individual schemes were formed, the court noted, they have to be forwarded to the NCPCR.

It expressed its dismay at the "paltry" number of children identified living on the streets. Those identified run into only thousands when there were lakhs of them out there. "In fact, we were told last time that there were about 1.5 million children. Only 17,000 children were identified. Ask your officers to be a little vigilant," the court addressed the State governments.

Urgent measures: Children studying under a shade of blanket near the Sadar Bazar station in New Delhi. • FILE PHOTO

Larger intent

In February, the court asked the States to approach the NCPCR with suggestions for changing their rehabilitation policies in accordance with their respective ground realities while at the same time keeping in mind the spirit and larger intent of the NCPCR's SOP to rescue children from the streets.

On Monday, the court was apprised by *amicus curiae* advocate Gaurav Agarwal that only Tamil Nadu and Delhi have come up with their own policies to rescue CISS. The court asked both the States to place their schemes before the NCPCR and implement their schemes to save children.

Pakistan objects to hydel projects

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has objected to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kashmir and the laying of foundation stones for the construction of the Rattle and Kwar hydroelectric projects on the Chenab river, which it claimed was a "direct contravention" of the Indus Waters Treaty.

Mr. Modi visited Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday for the first time for a public engagement since the abrogation of the special powers of the erstwhile State under Article 370 in August 2019.

The Pakistan Foreign Office termed his visit to the Valley as "yet another ploy to project fake normalcy" in the Valley.

"Since 5 August 2019, the international community has witnessed many such desperate attempts by India to divert attention from the actual underlying issues in Kashmir," it said on Sunday. It also criticised the laying of foundation stones for the construction of the Rattle and Kwar hydroelectric projects on the Chenab in Kashmir.

PDP, CPI(M) unhappy with Modi's speech

'Outsiders are getting jobs over locals'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the CPI(M) on Monday expressed displeasure over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech in Jammu on April 24, his first public function in the Union Territory since Jammu and Kashmir was stripped of its special status in August 2019.

"I had no expectations from PM Modi's visit. I fail to understand what future for the youth the Prime Minister was talking about. The youth are facing charges under the Public Safety Act (PSA) and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, which their grandparents and parents didn't see," PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said. She said J&K was being "destroyed". "J&K was reduced to a Union Territory, employees are being sacked, persons from outside are giving employment here by ignoring the locals. The future of J&K's people has been destroyed," she said. She said the method of dialogue adopted by former Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee is no longer visible. She said local youth were being pushed to the wall as jobs and other resources were being given to outsiders.

J&K's Statehood

CPI(M) leader M.Y. Tarigami said he was unhappy to see that the Prime Minister did not utter a word about the promise to restore Statehood to J&K.

"I was expecting the PM to talk about jobs, education and security of youth. Youth no longer feel secure in Kashmir. In fact, many were rounded up in police stations on the eve of the PM's visit. He avoided making any statement on communal flare ups engulfing city after another. He did not talk about the attack on the federal structure," he said.

He said the PM's visit had proven that the Centre did not bother about people's aspirations and hardship in a bureaucratic regime. He also highlighted that the PM was wrong in suggesting that Article 370 was an obstacle in the path of outside investment.

SAD takes a jibe at Mann's Delhi visit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) took a jibe at Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on his visits to Delhi schools and hospitals to understand the 'Delhi model'.

Shiromani Akali Dal leader and former Minister Daljit Singh Cheema said that Delhi was following the meritorious school model of Punjab with a few modifications.

"Now, Mr. Mann should quickly return quickly to Punjab and see the model first-hand by visiting Meritorious and Adarsh schools and fix the problems being faced by them, including that of non-release of funds and provision of adequate staff," he said.

India repressed critical voices: report

U.S. Commission recommends it be designated a 'Country of Particular Concern'

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

Observing that religious freedom conditions in India had "significantly worsened" in 2021, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), a bipartisan independent body, has recommended, for the third year in a row, that India be designated a 'Country of Particular Concern' (CPC). This category of countries perform most poorly on religious freedom criteria.

The State Department, which has its own Office of International Religious Freedom, is not bound by the Commission's recommendations and has not accepted the CPC recommendation for India for the two years.

"During the year, the Indian government escalated its promotion and enforcement of policies – including those promoting a Hindu-nationalist agenda – that negatively affect Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Dalits, and other religious minorities," the report said.

Structural changes

"The government continued to systemise its ideological vision of a Hindu state at both the national and State levels through the use of both existing and new laws and structural changes hostile to the country's religious minorities," it said.

The report section on India said that the government had "repressed critical voices", especially minority communities and individuals reporting on them. It mentions the arrest of rights activist Khuran Pervez in Kashmir, and the July 2021 death of octogenarian Father Stan Swamy, arrested in October 2020 under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA). The report touches on challenges faced by Non-Governmental Organisations, especially with regard to foreign funding and also highlights anti-conversion laws.

"In October 2021, Karnataka's government ordered a survey of churches and priests in the State and authorised police to conduct a door-to-door inspection to find Hindus who have converted to Christianity," the report said. Other countries recommended were: Afghanistan, Nigeria, Syria and Vietnam. USCIRF recommended that the State Department redesignate Myanmar, China, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan as CPCs.

The government has, previously, pushed back against the USCIRF's grading, questioning its *locus standi*. In 2020, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar called the Commission an "Organisation of Particular Concern."

Mr. Jaishankar, who was in Washington two weeks ago for the 2+2 U.S.-India Defence and Foreign Ministry dialogue, said that the state of human rights in India had not been raised at the dialogue. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken had made the general point that the U.S. remains concerned about human right violations in India.

Anish's family challenges SIT report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The family of student leader Anish Khan on Monday challenged the investigation report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) set up to probe the death of the 28-year-old student.

Appearing for the family, senior advocate Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya said that no real attempt had been made to investigate the crime and apprehend the culprits. Justice Rajasekhar Mantha asked the advocate to file an affidavit in seven days. The matter will come up for hearing on May 12. Anish Khan was found dead on February 19. His family members have been alleging that he was killed and have demanded a probe by the CBI.

Post-bail, Jignesh Mevani held in another case

"Surprisingly, the woman officer was silent for the last five days. The police also did not mention this case while raising objection to his bail petition on Sunday. This cropped up today [on Monday] immediately after he was granted bail," Mr. Bora told *The Hindu*.

The lawyer said the Barpeta police had registered the case under Sections 294, 354 (non-bailable), 355 and 323 of the Indian Penal Code. He will be produced in a court in Barpeta, about 85 km east of Kokrajhar, on Tuesday.

Mr. Mevani was arrested in the first case on April 20 from Gujarat's Palanpur based on an FIR lodged by Arup Kumar Dey, a BJP executive member in Assam's autonomous Bodoland Territorial Council. The FIR was lodged at the Kokrajhar police station.

In the FIR, Mr. Dey said Mr. Mevani tweeted about the Prime Minister worshipping and considering 'Godse' as God, while appealing to Mr. Modi. He alleged that the circulation of the tweet had the propensity to disturb public tranquillity, prejudicial to maintenance of harmony among a certain section of people in Gujarat.

T.N. govt. clips Governor's power to appoint V-Cs

The fact that the State government could not appoint V-Cs for universities under its control affected its administration, Mr. Stalin said.

"As the State government is not able to appoint the V-Cs for universities under its control, it has led to confusion. It is against the ideals of democracy," the Chief Minister said. Citing the recommendations of the Punchchi Commission on the appointment of V-Cs, Mr. Stalin went on to quote the panel: "There would be a clash of functions and powers."

A total of 19 States, including Tamil Nadu, had accepted the recommendations of the Punchchi Commission, he said.

Soon after the DMK government led by him came to power, when the Union Home Ministry sought its opinion on the recommendations of the Punchchi Commission, Mr. Stalin said his government had accepted them. "Even Gujarat, from where Prime Minister Narendra Modi hails, the State government appoints a V-C from a panel of three names recommended by the Selection Committee. Likewise, in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana, too, the V-Cs are appointed from a panel of three names recommended by the Selection Committee, only with the concurrence of the State government," Mr. Stalin pointed out.

250 kg heroin seized, nine Pakistani nationals arrested

Vessel intercepted off Gujarat coast in a joint operation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Nine Pakistani nationals have been arrested off the Gujarat coast, while trying to smuggle more than 250 kg of heroin estimated at ₹280 crore into India, officials said on Monday.

The operation was jointly carried out by Gujarat's ATS (Anti-Terrorism Squad) and the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). Coast Guard ships intercepted and seized Pakistani boat *Al Haj* when it ventured into the Indian waters, a defence spokesperson said in a statement.

A file photo of Indian Coast Guard personnel checking a Pakistani boat in Kutch. • PTI

Second in recent weeks

This is the second instance of a major drug seizure by the Indian agencies off the Gujarat coast. Last week, heroin estimated at ₹1,500 crore was recovered by the ATS and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence from a container at the Kandla port in Kutch. As per the details shared by ICG officials, *Al Haj* entered the Indian waters late on Sunday night. An ICG boat with two ATS operatives intercepted the vessel that attempted to return to Pakistan, with the crew throwing away narcotics packets in water, which were recovered by the agencies. The ICG boat began a pursuit of the boat and fired at it to prevent its escape.

In recent years, the Gujarat coast has become a preferred route of smuggling high-quality heroin meant for domestic consumption as well as for smuggling into other international markets.

In February last, in a joint operation by the NCB and the Navy, around 750 kg of drugs was seized from a ship off the Gujarat coast.

'Poor are being forced into religious conversions'

Need to do more to help economically weak: Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The poor were being forced into religious conversion and they required help for housing and other necessities, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishore said on Monday.

He alleged that there was a "conspiracy" to push the economically weak towards conversion, though he did not specify the instances but said he had knowledge of areas where forced conversions had taken place.

Kaushal Kishore

Call to officials

Speaking at an event to mark the 52nd foundation day of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO), Mr. Kishore asked the officials present to do more to provide the economically weaker sections housing and other help so they don't get forced to convert their religion.

He said Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities needed help. "There is a need to identify the areas where such people get left behind because they are not getting this help and due to their economically weaker condition, some people are misleading them and converting their religion," he stated, adding that these conversions were "condemnable".

Speaking about the role of HUDCO, a public sector enterprise under the MoHUA, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the company should innovate more.

He said over the next three months, HUDCO should brainstorm and hold interactions to discuss how it can be reconceived.

Minor rape victim dies of burns in Bengal

She was allegedly pressured to take back complaint

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

A 14-year-old girl died of burns in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal on Monday after fighting for life for 11 days.

The girl had allegedly set herself on fire after she was pressured to withdraw a police compliant regarding a rape attempt on her.

The development triggered outrage in social and political circles with questions being raised on the law and order situation in the State.

Family members, including the father of the deceased, have alleged that a proper investigation was not being done and demanded a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Granted bail

The alleged assault on the girl occurred at Maynaguri in Jalpiaguri district on February 24. The accused, a local, was arrested on the complaint of the girl. But after a few weeks, he was granted bail. Family members of the girl alleged that on April 13, the accused threatened the girl to withdraw the police complaint and on April 14, the girl set herself on fire.

Authorities of the North Bengal Medical College and Hospital, where the girl was undergoing treatment, said she had suffered 60% burns and she died at 5 a.m. on Monday. Senior police officers of Jalpaiguri district said four accused were arrested and sent to judicial custody.

The development comes at a time when the CBI, on the directions of the Calcutta High Court, is investigating rape and subsequent death of a Class 9 girl at Hanskhali in Nadia district.

Communist Party of India (Marxist) State Secretary Mohammed Salim said that there was an "ecosystem" in the State which was encouraging perpetrators to commit crime against women. The State BJP pressed for a CBI probe into the matter.

(Those in distress may call suicide helpline: 2463 7401)

Former Home Secretary Madhav Godbole no more

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Former Union Home Secretary and prolific writer Madhav Godbole passed away at his residence in Pune city Monday. He was 85.

The cause of his death was cardiac failure, said sources. He had taken voluntary retirement from the Indian Administrative Service in March 1993. An outstanding civil servant, known and respected for his integrity, energy and phenomenal erudition, Mr. Godbole held several top positions in both the Central and State governments through his career.

Madhav Godbole

Congress to set up Empowered Action Group for 2024 election

Party's *Chintan Shivir* from May 13 to 15; suspense over Kishor's entry continues

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

After deliberating on the report of the eight-member panel that examined poll strategist Prashant Kishor's revival plan for the party, Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Monday decided to set up an Empowered Action Group to deal with the political challenges ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

The party also formally announced the dates for the *Navsankalp Chintan Shivir* (brainstorming session) in Udaipur. The *shivir* will be held between May 13 and 15 where more than 400 leaders and workers are expected to debate the way forward in the run-up to 2024.

The Congress, however, kept up the suspense on Mr. Kishor's formal entry into the party after resentment from some senior leaders and its Telangana unit over the election strategist's firm, Indian Political Action Committee (I-PAC), signing up to manage the poll campaign of arch rival Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS).

Asked if Mr. Kishor would be a member of the Empowered Group, party general secretary and chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said, "We will let you know once the Congress president constitutes it." Sources, however, told this reporter that the Gandhis are talking to the poll strategist and he is likely to be part of the Empowered Group once he formally joins. But several leaders wanted Ms. Gandhi to clearly define Mr. Kishor's role and limits.

Meeting time: Congress leaders at the residence of party chief Sonia Gandhi in New Delhi on April 20. • PTI

Ms. Gandhi also constituted six coordination panels for drafting papers and leading discussions on the issues of political and organisational importance, social justice, economy, farmers and youth during the three-day brainstorming conclave.

Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge will lead the panel on political issues, former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda will head the committee on agriculture and farmers, and Mukul Wasnik will spearhead the coordination panel for organisational matters.

Both Mr. Hooda and Mr. Wasnik are members of the G-23, the ginger group that has been pushing for internal reforms within the party. Other G-23 leaders, including Ghulam Nabi Azad, Anand Sharma, Manish Tewari, Shashi Tharoor and Akhilesh Prasad Singh, have also been made part of these panels.

All these decisions were taken at a three-hour meeting at Ms. Gandhi's 10 Janpath residence that was attended by Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Ambika Soni, K.C. Venugopal, Digvijaya Singh, Jairam Ramesh, P. Chidambaram, Mr. Surjewala and Mr. Wasnik. "The *Navsankalp Shivir* will also deliberate on the broad strategy of the Indian National Congress in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha election," Mr. Surjewala said.

While Mr. Kishor's formal entry and role is expected to be clear in a few days, several leaders want clarity on his association with I-PAC and its involvement with other parties. Sharply reacting to the meeting between Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and the poll strategist on Sunday, AICC's Telangana in-charge tweeted a poster that read, "Never trust someone who is friends with your enemy" and asked "Is this correct?"

Birla seeks explanation on Navneet Rana's arrest

Amravati MP has alleged 'inhuman treatment' by police

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha Secretariat, through the Union Home Ministry, on Monday asked for a "factual note" from the Maharashtra government on the arrest of Amravati MP Navneet Rana and also sought explanation on her complaint in a letter to Speaker Om Birla of "inhuman treatment" meted out to her at the Khar police station in Mumbai.

Ms. Rana and her husband, Ravi Rana, MLA, were arrested on Saturday by the Mumbai police after they gave a call for the chanting of *Hanuman Chalisa* on a loudspeaker outside Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's private residence, which triggered angry protests by Shiv Sainiks.

The couple were arrested under Section 353 of the Indian Penal Code, which deals with assault or use of criminal force against a public servant in the execution of his duty, and for sedition. They have been remanded in judicial custody for 14 days.

Om Birla

Ms. Rana, in a letter to Mr. Birla, alleged that she was denied water for the entire night on Saturday as she was a Dalit. She was detained for the night at the Khar police station.

The next day, she was sent to the Byculla women's jail, while her husband was taken to the Taloja jail.

'Caste discrimination'

"I was abused on the basis on my caste and it is only for this reason that no drinking water was provided."

She went on to add, "To my shock and disbelief, the police staff present told me that I belong to Scheduled Caste and hence they will not give me water in the same glass. Thus, I was directly abused on the basis of my caste and it is only for this reason that no drinking water was provided."

When she wanted to use the bathroom at night, she alleged, the police staff paid no heed to her demand. "I was again abused in the most filthy language...I was told that we don't let people from *Neechi Zaat* Scheduled Castes use our bathrooms." This, she said, was a denial of basic human rights.

Ms. Rana also defended her decision to hold the Hanuman Chalisa recital, saying it was her sincere hope to "rekindle the flame of Hindutva in Shiv Sena".

The action was not meant to incite any religious tension and was neither targeted at Mr. Thackeray.

"However, looking to the fact that my actions may prove detrimental to law and order situation, I had publicly withdrawn from the said exercise and declared that I shall not be going to CM's residence. I was confined with my husband Ravi Rana, an MLA, in my house."

HC dismisses Ranas' plea to quash FIR

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Monday dismissed a plea filed by Independent MP Navneet Kaur Rana and her husband, Ravi Rana, seeking to quash an FIR against them in the *Hanuman Chalisa* row.

A Division Bench of Justices P.B. Varale and S.M. Modak said the petitioners were active politically and were expected to behave responsibly.

"Great power comes with great responsibility, the expectation of responsible conduct of those persons who have an active life is a reasonable expectation," it remarked.

The Bench went on to say, "The declaration that they are reading religious verses in someone else's house or even in public space, such an act is infringing public liberty of the other persons. The State is right to invoke provisions apprehending law and order situations. If the petitioners are law abiding citizens then there was no prohibition against them to extend co-operation to police and avail legal remedies against the State."

Open to implementing Uniform Civil Code in Himachal: Thakur

It's a good step, looking at all its aspects, says Chief Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jairam Thakur on Monday termed Uniform Civil Code a "good step". He stated that his government was examining the matter closely and was open to implementing it.

Mr. Thakur was speaking at the inaugural function of a media centre set up at Himachal Bhavan in New Delhi. "We don't want to rush into anything, it is a good step, and we will be looking at all aspects of the issue and are open to implementing a Uniform Civil Code," he said.

Himachal Pradesh will be going to the polls later this year and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), after its success in Punjab, is eyeing the State too. At this, Mr. Thakur was emphatic that the State was such that no third party could be in the fray. "Himachal Pradesh may be a small State in size but people carry values, emotions and sentiments with them. It is very difficult for them to accept any outsiders."

Mr. Thakur said that as a new entrant in Himachal politics, the AAP did not have a presence at the grassroots level and was importing people from other States. "They have started working in the State only recently and they don't have any ground presence of gram leaders. They are bringing people from other States and I am sure people of Himachal will vote intelligently," he observed.

Explaining why he felt the AAP could not repeat its success in Punjab in his State, he said, "Punjab was different. But when people from the plains come to Himachal, they fail to catch their breath and often end up breathless." He expressed hope that the BJP would be able to break the pattern of alternation in Himachal Pradesh and return to power.

On the draw

BJP team meets Home Secretary

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Former Lok Sabha member Kirit Somaiya led a delegation of BJP MLAs from Maharashtra and met Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla to raise the matter of the attack on him, allegedly by workers of the Shiv Sena in Mumbai.

"We had a detailed discussion with the Union Home Secretary on the situation in Maharashtra. He assured us that he is looking into the incident and if necessary a special team from Delhi will be sent to Maharashtra," Mr. Somaiya said after the meeting.

Mr. Somaiya said his security arrangements should be reviewed.

BJP gearing up to celebrate Modi govt. anniversary

It will highlight major decisions taken during second term

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A committee formed by the BJP to formalise a programme to mark the third anniversary of the second Narendra Modi government met on Monday at the party headquarters.

The committee includes Union Ministers Anurag Thakur and Rajeev Chandrashekhar; party general secretaries Arun Singh, C.T. Ravi and D. Purandareshwari; Rajya Sabha members Anil Baluni and Vinay Sahasrabuddhe; and Lok Sabha member Aparajita Sarangi, among others.

Narendra Modi

The COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in 2020 ruled out any major public event during the first two anniversaries.

A party source said that as of now a draft had been prepared, and the list of programmes and activities would be finalised in the coming days to highlight various achievements of the government.

Ram temple

Mr. Modi's second term has seen many big decisions, including revoking the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 and the beginning of the Ram temple construction in Ayodhya following a Supreme Court verdict and several Assembly poll victories. Many of these things will be highlighted in the programme.

'No provision to remove or install loudspeakers'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Stating that there was no provision for the Maharashtra government to either install or remove loudspeakers, State Home Minister Dilip Walse-Patil on Monday made clear that the State government would not make different norms for different communities and that it was up to the Central government to make a uniform rule regarding the use of loudspeakers at the national level.

Mr. Walse-Patil was speaking after the all-party meeting convened at the Sahyadri Guest House.

While the main Opposition party BJP boycotted the meet, the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS), which triggered the controversy, said after the meeting that it remained firm on its May 3 'ultimatum' to the MVA government (of the Shiv Sena, the NCP and the Congress) demanding the removal of loudspeakers from mosques.

State Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray said that the issue would be taken up with the Centre and that a delegation of all-party leaders from Maharashtra would go to Delhi to discuss this matter further.

Resolve NALCO coal supply crisis, directs HC

BHUBANESWAR

The Orissa High Court on Monday directed the Centre and the Chairman of the Railway Board to resolve the crisis of coal supply to the National Aluminium Company in 24 hours. A plea said supply from Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. had dropped by 60% of the contracted demand.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION, ERNAKULAM JUNCTION
TENDER NOTICE No. CE/CN/ERS/SD/EPC/01/2022
Dated: 20.04.2022
Name of work: Redevelopment of Ernakulam Junction Railway Station through EPC Contract. Tender Value: ₹ 265.68 Crores; Completion Period: 24 months; Bid Due date: 09.06.2022 by 15.00 hrs; Pre-Bid Meeting : 10.05.2022 @ 11.00 hrs; Complete details & Tender Document will be available at https://www.ireps.gov.in
Chief Engineer/Construction/ Ernakulam
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 05/22-23/SE/PHC/PKD. JJM - CWSS to various Gramapanchayaths in Malampuzha constituency - Providing FHTCs in Akathethara Panchayaths. EMD : Rs. 500000. Tender fee : Rs. 17700. Last Date for submitting Tender : 20-05-2022, 03:00:pm.
Phone : 04912544927
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Palakkad
KWA-JB-GL-6-97-2022-23

RUMS REWA ULTRA MEGA SOLAR LIMITED
Urja Bhawan, 5 No. Bus Stop, Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal – 462016
Tel. No. : 0755-2980002, Fax : 0755-2551439
Website : www.rumsl.com, E-mail ID : rumsltenders@gmail.com
No. F/RUM/2022/REP/09-075/029 Date : 25.04.2022
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS
Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Limited (RUMSL) having its registered office at Urja Bhawan, near - 5 No. Bus Stop, Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal intends to **engage Agency for supply, installation and commissioning of channel marking buoys and mooring ropes at backwaters of Omkareshwar reservoir.** The Request for Proposal (RFP) document will be available on website **https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** from **26.04.2022.** The last date for submission of technical proposal is on or before **15:30 Hrs. of 17/05/2022.**
M.P. Madhyam/104550/2022 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

राजस्थान स्कूल शिक्षा परिषद्
सर्वपल्ली डॉ० राधाकृष्णन शिक्षा संकुल, जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग, जयपुर
फोन: 0141-2700386, E-Mail :- rajssa_acctt@yahoo.co.in
क्रमांक: RCScE/ICT/PAB/STARS/Tablet/2021-22/2283 दिनांक 21.04.2022
शुद्धिपत्र 15/2021-22
इच्छुक बोलीदाताओं से एक वर्ष की व्यापक वारंटी एवं सामग्री युक्त टैबलेट के साथ डिजिटल पुस्तकालय की आपूर्ति एवं स्थापना हेतु दिनांक 21.04.2022 तक ई–बोली आमंत्रित की गई थी. आवश्यक संशोधन करते हुए बोली की अन्तिम दिनांक 04.05.2022 को सायं 6:00 बजे तक बढ़ायी जाती है। संशोधन की विस्तृत जानकारी www.sppp.raj.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा विभागीय पोर्टल www.rajsmsa.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है। UBN: RSE2122GLOB00868
राज्य परियोजना निदेशक

CENTRAL ORGANISATION FOR RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION
1, Nawab Yusuf Road, Civil Lines, Prayagraj-211001
Website: www.core.indianrailways.gov.in
Fax No. 0532-2407797
E-Tender Notice
E-Tender Notice No. : CORES02215016 & 02225001 Dated: 23.04.2022
On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Material Manager, Central Organization for Railway Electrification, Prayagraj, invites following E-TENDER:-

E-Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Tender Due Date
CORES 02215016	Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of SCADA system along with CAMC.	05 Sets	19.05.2022
CORES 02225001	Supply of Control and Relay Panel for Feeder (one no. CB) as per RDSO Spec. no. TIPSIROTOT8071 and guideline.	02 Nos	19.05.2022

Note:- (1) The complete information of above E-Tender and Tender document are available on IREPS website i.e. http://www.ireps.gov.in. Only E-Bids shall be accepted against above Tender. (2) In case of any technical difficulty, helpdesk of CRIS/NEW Delhi may be approached. The Telephone number are:- 011-24105180, 241002855, 24100746, 24671469.
PCNM
CORE/Prayagraj
For & On behalf of the President of India
PR-95-2022
PAMM "Serving Customers with a Smile"

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-बीकानेर
क्रमांक: 98 दिनांक: 11.04.2022
निविदा सूचना संख्या 01/2022-23

कार्यालय का नाम	कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-बीकानेर
निविदा का कार्य	माननीय मुख्यमन्त्री महोदय द्वारा की गई बजट घोषणा वर्ष 2022-23 के अन्तर्गत अवशेष सड़क कार्यों हेतु।
निविदा की कुल लागत	28867.05 लाख रुपये, अन्तर्गत 12 सड़कों के 11 कार्यों हेतु।
कुल धरोहर राशि (रुपयों में)	धरोहर राशि निविदा प्रपत्र के बिन्दु संख्या 1 के अनुसार देय होगी।
निविदा शुल्क एवं प्रक्रिया शुल्क	निविदा शुल्क निविदा विक्रय के बिन्दु संख्या 11 के अनुसार तथा प्रोसेसिंग फीस निविदा विक्रय के बिन्दु संख्या 12 के अनुसार वित्त विभाग के परिपत्र संख्या प.6 (5) वित्त (सामितिए)/2018 जयपुर दिनांक 27.04.2020 के द्वारा अधिरोपित देय होगी।
निविदा अपलोड डाउनलोड करने की तारीख	दिनांक 18.04.2022 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से 19.05.2022 सायं 06.00 बजे तक
ई-निविदा नोटिस	दिनांक 20.04.2022 प्रातः 11.00 बजे
निविदा जमा कराने/ अपलोड करने की तारीख	दिनांक 20.04.2022 मध्याह्न 12.00 बजे से 19.05.2022 सायं 06.00 बजे तक
निविदा खोलने की तारीख	20.05.2022 को मध्याह्न पश्चात 04.00 बजे
निविदा शुल्क, प्रक्रिया शुल्क व धरोहर राशि जमा कराने की तारीख	निविदा शुल्क, प्रक्रिया शुल्क व धरोहर राशि ऑनलाईन ही ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट द्वारा दिनांक 20.04.2022 से 19.05.2022 तक ऑनलाईन जमा कराने होंगे।

UBN No.

PWD2223WL0B00380	PWD2223WL0B00381	PWD2223WL0B00382	PWD2223WL0B00383
PWD2223WL0B00384	PWD2223WL0B00385	PWD2223WL0B00386	PWD2223WL0B00387
PWD2223WL0B00388	PWD2223WL0B00389	PWD2223WL0B00390	

(सुधीर माथुर)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. संभाग-बीकानेर
डीजीआईपीआर/पी/5652/2022

Homage

Cabot Corporation mourns the loss of Mr. N. Sankar.
Mr. Sankar was a pillar of leadership in the chemical industry in India, forging strong partnerships abroad and playing an instrumental role in the success of our joint venture, Cabot Sanmar Ltd.
We convey our deepest condolences to his bereaved family and to all those who knew him at this sorrowful time.
CABOT
Cabot Corporation, USA

E-mail : acesz1jpr.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग-पूर्वांश, जयपुर
पी.डब्लू.डी. कैम्पस, जैकब रोड, जयपुर छावनी के सामने, जयपुर फोन नं. 0141-2223529
क्रमांक: अमुअ/जोन-पूर्वांश/निविदा सूचना संख्या 01/2022-23 / डी-52 दिनांक : 8/4/2022
निविदा सूचना संख्या : 01/2022-23
राजस्थान के राजस्व मंडलों को छोड़ कर सम्पूर्ण प्रदेश, जयपुर के अन्तर्गत बजट घोषणा वर्ष 2022-23 के अन्तर्गत चौड़ीकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण सड़क निर्माण कार्य (11 कार्य) एवं एस.आर.एम. (आर.आर.) योजनान्तर्गत सड़क निर्माण कार्य (01 कार्य) (कुल 12 कार्य) हेतु बन्द पत्र एवं सामान्य/ई-निविदा के लिए "एए" श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत एवं वैध लाइसेंस में अन्य विभागों में तथा केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/के-सीपीडब्लू/एम.ई.एस. एवं सेना निकाय/रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत फर्मों/ठेकेदारों, जो कि सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान के "एए" श्रेणी के ठेकेदारों के समकक्ष हों, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से ऑन लाइन निविदा प्राप्त की जायेगी। ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत जानकारी http://www.pwd.rajasthan.gov.in/ में http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in में तथा http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

क्र. सं.	जिला	कार्य/पैकेज का नाम	UBIN No.
1.	सीकर	सुदृढ़ीकरण एवं चौड़ीकरण कार्य रोपिस श्रवणपुरा रोड (एसएच-83) से मेजासी रोड (एसएच-37वें) खास बस्तियों को छूती, मानपुरा को छूती, पुलिया का काम	PWD2223 WL0B00337
2	सीकर	सुदृढ़ीकरण एवं चौड़ीकरण कार्य नीमकाथाना-फतेहपुर सड़क खण्ड मुटौली (एमडीआर-141) किमी 0/0 से 27/0	PWD2223 WL0B00338
3	सीकर	सुदृढ़ीकरण एवं चौड़ीकरण कार्य पालसाना से सुरेरा खास गोलटी आलोड़ा सीमापुर पन्ना खण्डेलियासाना कूली कराड़ सड़क किमी 40/0 से 70/0 (खण्डेलियासाना से सीमा अनुभाग) (एमडीआर-171)	PWD2223 WL0B00339
4.	सीकर	सुदृढ़ीकरण एवं चौड़ीकरण कार्य खण्डुपचलाली से खासबास पाना को जोड़ने के लिये खुर्द से सेवदा कोठी किमी 0/0 से 34/0	PWD2223 WL0B00340
5	सीकर	लक्ष्मणगढ़ से खुर्द लोहपुरा से भूना होता खास खेक मगलासिंग से बाड़ावा एक सड़क निर्माण कार्य	PWD2223 WL0B00341
6	सीकर	फतेहपुर पुलिसलाइन से लक्ष्मणगढ़ सिकीरिया, रोड से कासिमपुर, सरकोरिया से सुल्तानपुर जी गलबाड़ी सड़क निर्माण कार्य	PWD2223 WL0B00342
7	सीकर	झाली कलाबास से झाली कैम्पस, मुटौरी, सन्तपाल मार्ग मिलोदिया होता कलौंड सड़क निर्माण कार्य एस.आर.एम. (आर.आर.) योजना	PWD2223 WL0B00343
8	झुन्झुनूं	चौड़ीकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य सुलताना-गोबला किमी 0/0 से 11/0	PWD2223 WL0B00332
9	झुन्झुनूं	चौड़ीकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य सिलसी-सूरजगढ़-मुकुन्दगढ़-पचेरी हरियाणा सीमा एवं सड़क नवीनीकरण का कार्य किमी 0/0 से 35/0	PWD2223 WL0B00333
10	झुन्झुनूं	बम्बई हरीटेज सेक्शनवाला कालीपोल जोधपुर कलोरी पचलंगी खेड़ा (खण्डे) सड़क चौड़ीकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य	PWD2223 WL0B00334
11	झुन्झुनूं	झुन्झुनूं से टिटनवाड़ा रोड वाया कांसी, जाखल रोड (जाखल बाईपास सहित) एमडीआर-312 का चौड़ीकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य	PWD2223 WL0B00335
12	झुन्झुनूं	झुन्झुनूं के ग्राम मण्डरावू एवं ग्राम इस्लामपुर में बाईपास सड़क निर्माण कार्य	PWD2223 WL0B00336

DIPR/C/5486/2022
(वी.एल. धनखड़) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. संभाग-जयपुर

CBSE reveals method of deciding final result

If one misses a term exam, marks of other term will count

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

New norm: Over 34 lakh students are expected to appear in the examinations for both classes. • FILE PHOTO

The final results of students who have missed either the Term 1 or 2 examinations of Classes 10 and 12 will be based on their performance in the one taken by them, according to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

However, those who have not taken both the examinations will have to appear next year as a regular or a private candidate. On students with COVID-19 who are unable to appear in all the papers, the Board will take a decision at an appropriate time in their favour.

On Monday, the CBSE officials held a webinar for school administrations, teachers and other stakeholders involved in the conduct of the Term 2 examinations from Tuesday to apprise them of the modalities to be followed, particularly in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Term 2 exam will be held at more than 7,412 centres, including 133 abroad.

Separate rooms

The Board has asked the examination centres to provide a separate room for students with COVID-19 to take the examinations. Over 34 lakh candidates are expected for both classes.

The CBSE is providing financial assistance to the centres for ensuring that the COVID-19 protocol is followed. As decided, a maximum of 18 students will be seated in three rows in each examination hall.

The Board has cautioned the students against fake news circulating on social media on examinations.

A cyber team is monitoring social media to flag such fake news and legal action may be taken against those putting them out.

Navy to review security scenario

All Operational and Area Commanders are participating in a four-day conference

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Charting a course: The meeting will seek ways to enhance the combat capability of the Navy. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The first edition of the biannual Naval Commanders Conference began on Monday where the top brass will dwell upon dynamics of the "geostrategic situation in the backdrop of security scenario in the neighbourhood as well as changes emerging due to ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict".

All Operational and Area Commanders of the Navy are participating in the four-day conference to review major operational, material, logistics, human resource development, training and administrative activities.

"The Conference will focus on addressing the contemporary security paradigms while seeking ways to enhance combat capability of the Navy and make operations more effective and efficient. A detailed review of the performance of weapons and sensors, readiness of Naval platforms, ongoing Naval projects – with focus on ways to enhance indigenisation through 'Make in India' – will be undertaken by the Commanders," Navy Spokesperson Cdr. Vivek Madhwal said in a statement. The Conference would also dwell upon dynamics of the geostrategic situation of the region against the backdrop of recent international developments.

The chiefs of the Army and the Air Force will also interact with the Naval Commanders and will also discuss avenues of augmenting tri-service synergy and readiness, the Navy said. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will address the conference and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is also expected to address and interact with the Naval Commanders.

Weapon trials

Officials said that the Navy recently carried out weapon engagement and missile firing drills on the western seaboard. The multiple ordnance on target missions included participation of 15 warships and submarines and a large number of maritime patrol aircraft, integral helicopters, fighter aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles, an official said.

The missile firings undertaken in mid-April were focused on validating combat worthiness of various weapon systems deployed on the frontline units, which included the Veer Class, Talwar Class and Brahmaputra Class warships carrying out anti-air engagements against high-speed sea-skimming air targets in tactical scenarios.

In another engagement, the Brahmaputra class ship sank a decommissioned naval warship. An underwater launched missile successfully hit its target at maximum range, proving the lethality and versatility of the Indian submarines, the official said.

The Navy is closely monitoring the war in Ukraine, given its dependence for spares and supplies on Russia and Ukraine. The Navy's operational tasking and engagements have gone up significantly in the past few years in tune with the global focus on the Indo-Pacific. During the pandemic in the past two years, Indian Navy ships have undertaken multiple COVID-related outreach missions to provide food and medical aid to littoral nations in the Indian Ocean Region and beyond.

FCRA nod for human rights NGO declined

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has cancelled the FCRA registration of Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), an international NGO that works for human rights in Commonwealth countries.

FCRA registration is mandatory for any NGO or association to receive foreign funds. The NGO's Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) registration was suspended for 180 days on June 7, 2021 due to alleged violations. The suspension was extended again in December for 180 days.

The CHRI moved the Delhi High Court against the suspension, but the court in February refused to interfere with the MHA's decision. The MHA has now cancelled the registration without waiting for the second 180-day period to lapse. Counsel for the CHRI said that the cancellation came a day before the Delhi High Court was expected to hear a review plea.

India 3rd highest military spender

Nation's spending rose to $76.6 billion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Despite COVID, the world's military spending reached a record $2.1 trillion in 2021.

World military spending continued to grow in 2021, reaching a record $2.1 trillion despite the economic fallout of the pandemic, according to new data on global military spending published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The five largest spenders in 2021 were the U.S., China, India, the U.K. and Russia, together accounting for 62% of expenditure. The U.S. and China alone accounted for 52%.

"India's military spending of $76.6 billion ranked third highest in the world. This was up by 0.9% from 2020 and by 33% from 2012. Amid ongoing tensions and border disputes with China and Pakistan that occasionally spill over into armed clashes, India has prioritised the modernisation of its armed forces and self-reliance in arms production," the report said.

Stating that military spending in Asia and Oceania totalled $586 billion in 2021, the report noted that spending in the region was 3.5% higher than in 2020, continuing an uninterrupted upward trend dating back to at least 1989. "The increase in 2021 was primarily due to growth in Chinese and Indian military spending. Together, the two countries accounted for 63% of total military expenditure in the region in 2021," it observed.

"Even amid the economic fallout of the COVID-19, world military spending hit record levels," the report said quoting Diego Lopes da Silva, Senior Researcher with SIPRI's Military Expenditure and Arms Production (MEAP) programme.

Russia increased its military expenditure by 2.9% in 2021, to $65.9 billion, at a time when "it was building up its forces along the Ukrainian border," the report pointed out.

On Ukraine, the report remarked that as it had strengthened its defences against Russia, its military spending "has risen by 72% since the annexation of Crimea in 2014".

Spending fell in 2021, to $5.9 billion, but still accounted for 3.2% of the country's GDP, it added.

86.45% fall in malaria cases: Minister

Mandaviya says infection-related deaths have fallen by 79.16% from 2015 to 2021

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Mansukh Mandaviya

Suggesting that the private sector, including private practitioners, need to align their malaria case management, reporting and related activities with the national programme, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday called for the progressive strengthening of the healthcare delivery system and improving multi-sectoral coordination and collaboration.

In his address on World Malaria Day, the Health Minister said, "Not only diagnosis and treatment, *swachhta* (cleanliness) in our personal and community surroundings and social awareness regarding malaria control and prevention are equally important in our collective fight against the disease and for meeting our goal of elimination by 2030."

This year's theme is "Harness innovation to reduce the global malaria disease burden and save lives".

Malaria elimination

The Health Minister called for prioritisation of malaria elimination, and said leveraging technology and innovation would help in developing tailor-made solutions to advance India's malaria elimination plan and contribute to improved health, quality of life and alleviation of poverty.

The Minister said India had made progress in reducing the malaria incidence and deaths.

"Our efforts have resulted in a 86.45% decline in malaria cases and a 79.16% reduction in malaria-related deaths in 2021 as compared with 2015," he said.

"This is a major step towards our goal for elimination of malaria but still more needs to be done to fulfil the dream of Malaria-free India," Mr. Mandaviya added.

A manual on Integrated Vector Management, 2022 was released on this occasion.

'Anganwadi workers entitled to gratuity'

SC calls for better working conditions

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday held that anganwadi workers and helpers taking care of the nutrition needs of nearly 158 million children who were considered the "future resource of the country", were entitled to gratuity, a basic social security measure.

A Bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and A.K. Oka rued how these workers and helpers, who performed a bouquet of vital services at the grassroots level and were often the bridge between the government and beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act and the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), were made to fight so hard and for so long for the recognition of their right to be paid gratuity under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972.

The judgment came in an appeal filed by anganwadi workers and organisations represented by senior advocates Sanjay Parikh and P.V. Surendranath and advocate Subhash Chandran.

Statutory obligation

"Gratuity is a gesture to appreciate the efforts of a person towards the betterment, development and prosperity of an establishment and that is the reason for which gratuity is considered to be social security, and with passage of time, it has become a statutory obligation on the part of employers," Justice Rastogi observed in the verdict.

The court underscored that it was time for the Centre and the States to "collectively consider" bettering the service conditions of anganwadi workers and helpers.

It warned that a lack of motivation among them would have a crippling effect on the multiple tasks they performed.

Backbone of ICDS

Anganwadi workers and helpers served in disadvantaged areas and catered to the needs of underprivileged groups. They formed the backbone of the ICDS.

Not only children but also women benefited from the services provided by the anganwadi centres.

"Socialised childcare contributes to the liberation of women... It lightens the burden of looking after children," the court noted.

It said the ICDS deserved far greater attention in public policy.

"The scheme acts as an "institutional mechanism for realisation of child and women rights. Yet these services are regarded as State largesse rather than as enforceable entitlements," the court observed in a 72-page judgment.

Four Indians killed in Nepal accident

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KATHMANDU

Four Indian tourists were among the five persons who were killed after their car collided with a bus in Dhading district of Nepal, the police said on Monday.

The accident occurred on Sunday night along the Prithvi Highway in the Thakre area, the police said.

The Nepalese driver of the car was also killed in the accident.

The bus was heading towards Dhading from Kathmandu.

16 YouTube channels blocked in India on Centre's orders

They are accused of spreading false, unverified information

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Ministry has got 16 YouTube news channels, six of them from Pakistan, blocked on charges of spreading false and unverified information to create panic, incite communal disharmony and disturb public order in the country.

The action has been taken using emergency powers under the IT Rules. These channels had a cumulative viewership of over 68 crore. A Facebook account has also been blocked.

"It was observed that these channels were used to spread fake news over social media on matters related to national security, India's foreign relations, communal harmony in the country, and public order. None of the digital news publishers had furnished information to the Ministry as required under Rule 18 of the IT Rules, 2021," the Ministry said.

As alleged, the content published by some of the India-based YouTube channels referred to a community as terrorists, and incited hatred among the members of various religious communities.

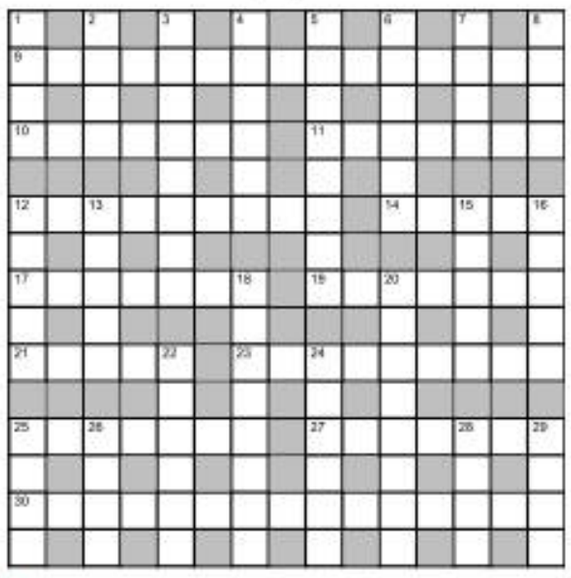
The Ministry said, "Examples include false claims related to announcement of a pan-India lockdown due to COVID-19, thereby threatening the migrant workers, and fabricated claims alleging threats to certain religious communities, etc."

TH CROSSWORD + 13540

(set by Hypatia)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

9 Nope! I never excel performing a new experiment (5,10)
10 What often goes over a judge's head? (7)
11 Restrict people leaving America for India (7)
12 Kind of anxious? (9)
14 Scoundrel chucking black shoe (5)
17 Person charging a small amount gets customer (7)
19 Impress, say, outside national party (7)
21 Fight without English weapon (5)
23 Spooner's gathering grass, perhaps for Jamaican singer (3,6)
25 As perhaps, a rule since broken (7)
27 Obsolete global body caught probing expert (7)
30 Admit defeat through title he won? (5,2,3,5)

DOWN

1 Photograph vessels from below (4)
2 Basically assert vocally establishing right, say (4)
3 Wild sex ahead? Perfect! (8)
4 Passenger in Airport? (6)
5 Revive decentralised treatment before new doctor led (8)
6 Nobody's got the code (6)
7 Rolls over in shame (4)
8 Gaze steadily concealing enthusiasm (4)
12 Tea often picked up from shop in mess (5)
13 Start to huddle in pleasant corner (5)
15 Called about lake swelling (5)
16 Ultimately one mournful dirge, sung sadly (5)
18 Copper, interrupting hot date after massage becomes flushed (8)
20 Kid cycling very loudly often seen in this picture (8)
22 Mark name under soldier's present (6)
24 Priest crosses heart reflecting on a religious leader (6)
25 Vehicle crashing out after acceleration (4)
26 Active chief of staff meets peer (4)
28 Trap to catch weak animal (4)
29 Take money from farm (4)

SUDOKU

								1
9			7			3		
			1	4	9	5		
	9	4				2		8
		3		2		6		
6		2				9	7	
		5	2	8	3			
		9			7			6
3								

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to puzzle 13539

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	2	4	7	9	6	8	5	3
5	7	9	8	1	3	4	6	2
8	6	3	4	2	5	1	7	9
7	9	5	3	6	4	2	8	1
4	3	2	5	8	1	6	9	7
6	8	1	9	7	2	3	4	5
2	5	7	1	4	8	9	3	6
9	1	8	6	3	7	5	2	4
3	4	6	2	5	9	7	1	8

FAITH

The pativrata dharma

The greatness of penance forms the background of the Ramayana. Valmiki highlights the austere way of life practised by Rama, Lakshmana and Sita during the period of their vana vasa. After Bharata's departure, Rama is overwhelmed by sadness. So, He decides to leave Chitrakuta and proceeds towards the Dandaka forest. They visit the ashram of Sage Atri, to seek directions from him for a suitable place to stay. Atri speaks highly of his wife, the saintly Anasuya, who is the embodiment of penance and pativrata dharma, pointed out Sengalipuram Sri Balaji Bhattar in a discourse. The name Anasuya signifies that she is ever free from anger and malice. She is hailed and saluted by all beings for her observance of many sacred vows.

Atri refers to the time of drought that had prevailed for 10 long years once some time ago. It was Anasuya's penance that made the waters of the River Jahnavi flow to the earth and thereby people had survived the drought. There is another purana story where Anasuya is shown to have saved a devoted rishi patni from a difficult plight. This devoted wife was unfortunately the victim of a sage's curse who pronounced that she would lose her husband before sunrise the next day. Anasuya proclaimed a counter-curse and prevented the sun from rising. When this happened, the whole world was stunned with chaos. The celestial beings sought her help and asked her to take back the curse and promised to grant life to the husband.

Anasuya and Sita are known for their exemplary pativrata dharma and there is mutual regard between them. Anasuya is overjoyed with Sita's single-minded devotion to Rama. With great affection she presents Sita with her own beautiful garments, ornaments, cosmetics etc.

Macron pledges to tackle 'doubts and divisions'

'Many in this country voted for me not because they support my ideas but to keep out those of the far-right,' says President

REUTERS
PARIS

Emmanuel Macron pledged to address deep divisions within France as results showed a clear presidential election win over Marine Le Pen, acknowledging that many had voted for him mainly to thwart his far-right challenger.

With all eyes turned towards a parliamentary election in June, he must now negotiate another tricky period of campaigning to try to ensure a legislature that will give him the majority he will need to implement his policies.

Final results of Sunday's runoff showed Mr. Macron won 58.54% of the vote against 41.45% for Ms. Le Pen, a result in line with late polling but a higher margin of victory than many earlier surveys had predicted.

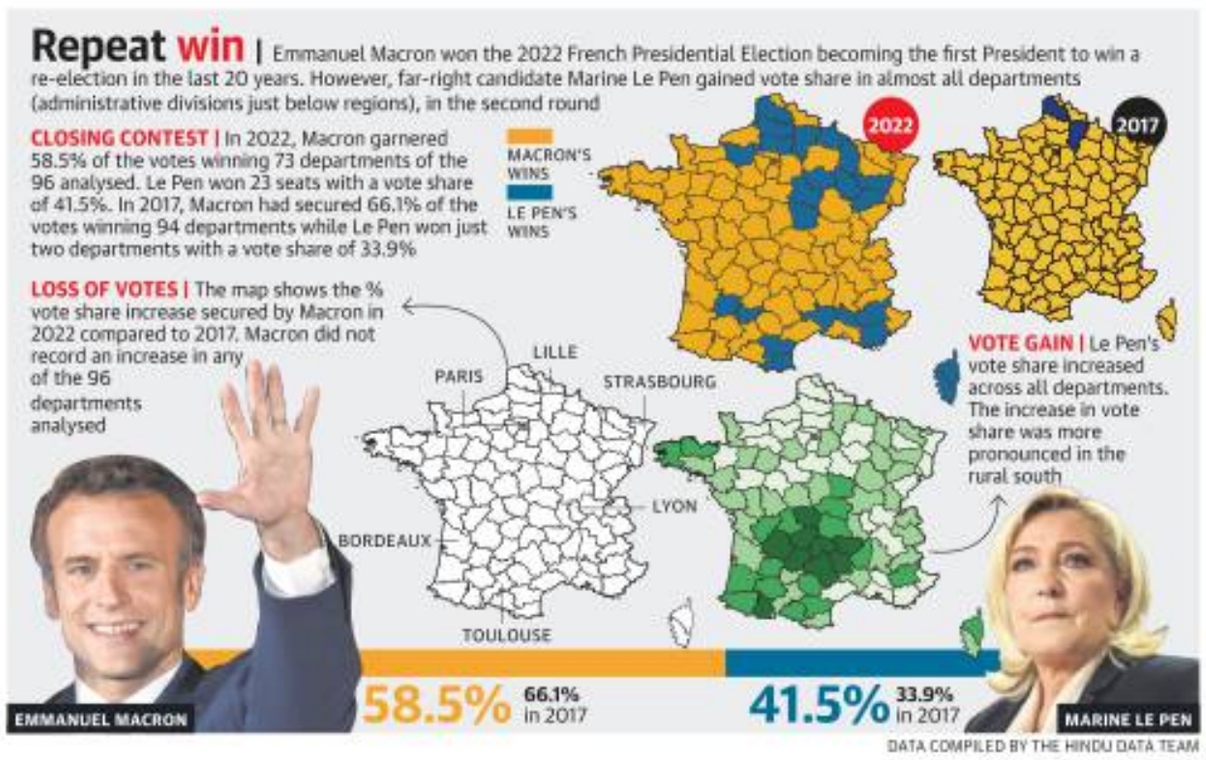
The result also give the far right its biggest share of the presidential ballot on record.

"Many in this country voted for me not because they support my ideas but to keep out those of the far-right. I want to thank them and know I owe them a debt in the years to come," Mr. Macron said in a late-night victory speech.

"We will have to be benevolent and respectful because our country is riddled with so many doubts, so many divisions."

While Mr. Macron's margin of victory was comfortable, it was well below the 66.1% he scored against the same opponent in their first runoff in 2017, and even further from the 82% secured by conservative Jacques Chirac in 2002 when the far-right first made it to the runoff round.

It is a ballot in which Opposition parties of all stripes will be hoping to win.


Repeat win | Emmanuel Macron won the 2022 French Presidential Election becoming the first President to win a re-election in the last 20 years. However, far-right candidate Marine Le Pen gained vote share in almost all departments (administrative divisions just below regions), in the second round
CLOSING CONTEST | In 2022, Macron garnered 58.5% of the votes winning 73 departments of the 96 analysed. Le Pen won 23 seats with a vote share of 41.5%. In 2017, Macron had secured 66.1% of the votes winning 94 departments while Le Pen won just two departments with a vote share of 33.9%
MACRON'S WINS
LE PEN'S WINS
2022
2017
LOSS OF VOTES | The map shows the % vote share increase secured by Macron in 2022 compared to 2017. Macron did not record an increase in any of the 96 departments analysed
LILLE
PARIS
STRASBOURG
LYON
BORDEAUX
TOULOUSE
VOTE GAIN | Le Pen's vote share increased across all departments. The increase in vote share was more pronounced in the rural south
EMMANUEL MACRON
58.5%
66.1% in 2017
41.5%
33.9% in 2017
MARINE LE PEN
DATA COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

'Third round'

Hard-left presidential candidate Jean-Luc Melenchon – who came a close third behind Ms. Le Pen in the first round – immediately labelled the June 12 and June 19 parliamentary elections a "third round" of the presidential election.

The conservative daily *Le Figaro* wrote in its main editorial on Monday: "In truth, the marble statue is a giant with feet of clay. Emmanuel Macron knows this well... he will not benefit from any grace period."

The message across Mr. Macron's camp on Monday was that they would listen more, after a first mandate in which Mr. Macron himself initially called his leadership style "Jupiterian", suggesting he would stay above the political fray.

Mr. Macron can likely expect the protests that have marred some of his first mandate to come back as he tries to push his business reforms, including plans to push the retirement age from 62 to 65 years.

"He's not going to do another five years of the same mandate, that's clear. We won't let him do it," said 63-year-old administrative worker Colette Sierra.

"If he does, I think people are ready to take to the streets if there isn't the right kind of coalition government."

But some voters were genuinely happy with Mr. Macron's win. "I'm very happy about the result because this president has already steered us through several challenges," said 65-year-old lorry driver Lucien Sozinho.

'U.S. wants to see weakened Russia to avoid Ukraine repeat'

Austin vows to supply more munitions

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KYIV

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said on Monday after a secrecy-shrouded visit to Kyiv that the U.S. wanted to see "Russia weakened to the point that it can't do things like invade Ukraine". Secretary of State Antony Blinken accompanied him on the trip.

They said that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is committed to winning his country's fight against Russia and that the U.S. will help him achieve that goal.

"We had an opportunity to demonstrate directly our strong ongoing support for the Ukrainian government," Mr. Blinken said. "This was, in our judgment, an important moment to be there, to have face-to-face conversations in detail."

Mr. Austin said that Russia has pulled away from the northern regions to focus on the eastern industrial heartland of the Donbas. Because the nature of the fight has evolved, so have Ukraine's military needs, and Mr. Zelensky is now focused on more tanks, artillery and other munitions. "The first step in winning is believing that you can win," Mr. Austin said. "We believe that they can win if they have the right equipment, the right support, and we're going to do everything we can... to ensure that gets to them."

Lloyd Austin, Volodymyr Zelensky, centre, and Antony Blinken in Kyiv. • AP

Mr. Austin said that "we want to see Ukraine remain a sovereign country, a democratic country able to protect its sovereign territory. We want to see Russia weakened to the point where it can't do things like invade Ukraine."

Paris police shoot, kill 2 in speeding car

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Police in central Paris opened fire on a car that was hurtling towards them, killing two people inside, a police source said, just hours after French President Emmanuel Macron won a second term.

The vehicle was driving on Paris's oldest standing bridge, the Pont Neuf, shortly after midnight when it refused to stop at a police checkpoint. As it sped towards the officers, they opened fire, according to the same police source.

Two of the vehicle's occupants were killed and a third was injured, said the source.

No link has been established between the bridge incident and the election night events. "I heard four bullets (being fired)," a bystander said.

A political deadlock threatens Sri Lanka's economic recovery

Protesters demand exit of Rajapaksas

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

As Sri Lanka witnesses a severe economic crash, a political deadlock at the country's helm is threatening to delay any action for recovery.

The Rajapaksa administration has lost public confidence, going by citizens' persistent calls for the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, and their government. However, neither of the ruling brothers appears inclined to step down, and Mr. Gotabaya's move appointing a new Cabinet, without three other Rajapaksas [two of his brothers and a nephew], has made little difference to the protesters.

Meanwhile, governance has come to a virtual halt as the ruling coalition begins to fall apart, pushing Sri Lanka into an unusual political stalemate.

The country's two leaders stubbornly remain in office, and their government is not just tainted but also fractured, with lawmakers divided in their loyalties between the two Rajapaksa brothers. Early in April, the government lost its parliamentary majority when some 40 MPs sat separately in the legislature. Another group of ruling MPs is pressuring President Gotabaya to sack his brother, appoint an interim government with a non-Rajapaksa as Premier. All opposition parties have rejected the President's offer to join him in an interim, all-party government. How will Sri Lanka address this political deadlock?

Nalaka Godahewa, the Media Minister, told *The Hindu*: "I think we need an inclusive Cabinet with members from all factions in Parliament to address this crisis. I offered to resign to make way for others, but the President did not accept my resignation," he said, adding: "I have nothing against the Prime Minister." A new arrangement is in the interest of "political stability, which is crucial to addressing the economic crisis", according to Mr. Godahewa.

'Country first'

Former Health Minister Keheliya Rambukwella, who quit with his Cabinet colleagues on April 3, said it was important to "put the country's interest first" and arrest any further economic deterioration. All former and current government MPs must "sit together, discuss, and find a way out." In his view, Mr. Mahinda's recent suggestion in Parliament, to reduce presidential powers, is a "good temporary measure" before a new Constitution is readied.

Harsha De Silva, a lawmaker from the main opposition party Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB or United People's Force), said his party was "confident" of mustering a simple majority of 113 votes in the 225-member House, in the event of an no-confidence motion again the government. The SJB, along with other opposition parties, has about 70 seats, and will need the support of government deserters to garner a majority. The party doesn't seem to be in a hurry to table a trust vote.

"We must remember that the main demand of the people is 'Gota go home'. The broader interpretation of that is the President's unfettered powers must go," he said. "We are looking at different constitutional, legal options, and the best possible time to take them forward. We cannot let the situation descend into chaos, we must act responsibly," Mr. De Silva said.

Grim situation: Police personnel standing guard during the demonstration near the President's office in Colombo. • AFP

M.A. Sumanthiran, Jaffna MP, and senior constitutional lawyer, whose advice both Mr. Mahinda and the Opposition have sought on constitutional amendments needed to empower Parliament, said the call of the people on the streets is "very clear". "It is 'Gota go home'. It means that they identify him as the "primary, and most proximate cause for the economic downturn," he said.

NEWS ANALYSIS

On the other hand, it is not easy to oust a President in Sri Lanka. Legislatively, if the Opposition were to move a no-confidence motion against the government, it could at best result in the stepping down of the PM and the Cabinet. The President will remain untouched.

He could be impeached, but that will need a parliamentary majority, contingent on the Speaker's discretion to entertain an impeachment motion, or a two-thirds majority in the House. Either way, it must be followed by a Supreme Court inquiry into the charges against the President. "It is a long-drawn-out process that could take up to a year or two, and therefore cannot respond to the urgency of the current situation."

No-trust vote

More recently, some are looking at a possible NCM against the President. Though the Sri Lankan Constitution does not provide for this, the President, as head of Government, is responsible to Parliament, and nothing explicitly prohibits the House from voting on such a motion. While its passage has no legal consequence under the Sri Lankan Constitution, Mr. Sumanthiran said it would result in "enormous moral pressure" on the President.

U.S. court holds Trump in contempt for non-compliance

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK

A New York judge found former President Donald Trump in contempt of court and set in motion $10,000 daily fines on Monday for failing to adequately respond to a subpoena issued by the state's attorney general as part of a civil investigation into his business dealings.

Judge Arthur Engoron said a contempt finding was appropriate because Mr. Trump and his lawyers hadn't shown they had conducted a proper search for the records sought by the subpoena.

"Mr. Trump, I know you take your business seriously, and I take mine seriously," Judge Engoron said in a Manhattan courtroom. "I hereby hold you in civil contempt and fine you $10,000 a day" until the terms of the subpoena are met.

New York Attorney General Letitia James, a Democrat, had asked the court to hold Mr. Trump in contempt after he missed a March 31 court-imposed deadline to turn over documents.

Mr. Trump, a Republican, has been fighting Ms. James in court over her investigation, which he has called a politically motivated "witch hunt." Ms. James has been conducting investigation into the Trump Organization, centering around what she has claimed is a pattern of misleading banks and tax authorities about the value of his properties.

Nawaz Sharif given passport to return to Pakistan: report

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has been issued a passport to return to his home country from the U.K. where he was seeking treatment, a media report said on Monday.

The 72-year-old three-time premier, against whom several corruption cases were launched by the government of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, left for London in November 2019 after the Lahore High Court granted him four-week permission allowing him to go abroad for his treatment.

The *Express Tribune* newspaper reported that he has been issued a passport by the new government headed by his younger brother, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The nature of the passport is "ordinary" and it was made in the "urgent" category, Geo News reported.

Mr. Sharif, who is the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo, last week met Pakistan People's Party (PPP) chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari in London and discussed the "overall political situation" in Pakistan and vowed to work together on issues pertaining to politics and national interest.

Office of the Superintending Engineer,
Southern Minor Irrigation Circle, Berhampur, Ganjam.
E-mail : smicbam@yahoo.co.in
Office Notice No. /SMIC, Dated 21.04.2022
Corrigendum Notice
Due to unavoidable Circumstances the tender for the work " Improvement to Lakhaparbat MIP in Kantamal Block under DPW for the year 2022-23" invited vide BID ID No. SESMIC -01 /2022-23 on dated 13.04.2022 reflected at Sl. No. 4 of Detail Tender Call Notice is hereby cancelled.
The other terms and conditions of the bid remain unaltered.
Superintending Engineer, S.M.I.Circle, Berhampur
A-95 OIPR-32045/11/0003/2223

INSTITUTE ON MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION (IMAGE)
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA)
Siripur, BHUBANESWAR-751003, Odisha
Ph. - (0674) 2974145, E-mail : imagebbsr1999@gmail.com
No.1801 / IMAGE, CORRIGENDUM AND ADDENDUM Dated: 25.04.2022
With reference to RFP Notice No.1749 dt. 20.04.2022, for Selection of Agency for Engagement of Extension Functionaries at Blocks & Districts and setting up of PMU in IMAGE under Extension Reforms (ATMA) Scheme
The details of information relating to the Corrigendum and Addendum with reference to the RfP Notice No. 1749 DT. 20.04.2022 can be downloaded from www.agriodisha.nic.in / www.odisha.gov.in from dt. 23.04.2022.
DIRECTOR, IMAGE
CAD-298 : OIPR-01408/11/0003/2223

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, KHORDHA
(SOCIAL SECURITY SECTION)
Email:dssokhurda1@gmail.com
No.1704 /SS, Dt.22/04/2022
Sealed Tenders are invited from the intending registered Manpower Service Provider Agencies to provide services of Manpower (As Programme Assistants) on contract basis to implement various MIS works of Social Security Section at District Office and in different Sub-Division/Block/ ULB Offices of Khordha District under SSEPD Department for a period of one year with effect from the date of execution of the agreement on contract. The tender documents for the above purpose containing the terms and conditions, EMD and statutory requirement is available in website www.khordha.nic.in . The advertisement for the said purpose also be published in the Local Newspaper " The Sambad" & "The Hindu". The tender complete in all respect should reach the Office of the District Social Security Officer, Khordha by 1.00 P.M. on dated.06.05.22 through Regd. Post/Speed Post only and the tenders will be opened on dated 07.05.22 at 10.30 A.M. in the Conference Hall of Collectorate, Khordha in presence of the Tender Committee members and the tenderer or their authorized representatives. The tender received beyond the date and time mentioned above shall not be taken into consideration. The Collector, Khordha reserves the right to reject/ cancel/ withdraw/ annul any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof and shall bear no liability what so ever consequent upon such decision.
Collector & District Magistrate, Khordha.
gg-04: OIPR-24013/11/0001/2223

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. website : www.kiadb.in, e-Mail: cdoce1@kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-02/1132/2022-23 Date: 25.04.2022
SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)
Tender under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-II & Above (Electrical) Contractors registered in KCEI, who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work of Repair, Reconditioning and annual maintenance of street lights at Kolhar 1st Phase and 2nd Phase Industrial Area, Bidar District. (2nd Call)
The last date and time of receipt of tender is : 11.05.2022 upto 04:00 pm
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/272/Zenkari/2022-23
STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Shivamogga, Davanagere and Chithradurga Dist Co-operative Milk Producer's Societies Union Ltd.,
Machenahalli, Nidige Post, Shimoga – 577 222.
IFT:No:SDCMUL/PUR/E.Proc/Tender-281D/688/2022-23 Date: 22.04.2022
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Through GOK E-Procurement Portal only Logon to: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
Shivamogga, Davanagere and Chitradurga Dist Co-Operative Milk Producer's Societies Union Ltd., invites in two tender document system i.e. Technical and Commercial system from the manufactures or from interested eligible bidders for supply of following materials.

Sl No	Particulars	Qty	EMD (in ₹)
1	Supply of Rubber cow mats at specified place of Shivamogga dairy and chilling centers.	10,000 Nos	3,00,000/-
2	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of fodder SSG/Jowar multicut to Shivamogga Dairy	2,50,000 Kg	1,87,500/-
3	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of fodder South African tall maize to Shivamogga Dairy	80,000 Kg	88,000/-
4	Annual Rate Contract for Supply of fodder cowpea to Shivamogga Dairy	5,000 Kg	10,000/-

1. Tender Documents may be downloaded from the e-Procurement Portal of GOK from : 26.04.2022
2. Date of pre bid meeting at Shivamogga dairy : 10.05.2022 at 11.00 Hours
3. Last date for uploading the filled Tender documents : On or before 26.05.2022 up to 16 Hours
4. Date of opening of Technical Tender : 27.05.2022 at 17.00 Hours
5. Date of opening of Commercial Tender : 30.05.2022 at 17.00 Hours

The bidder may download the tender documents with the Technical Specification & Terms & conditions of the tender by paying e-portal fees.
The details regarding participation for this tender can be obtained by login to https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
Any additional information regarding tender may be obtained from A.M (Pur) during office hours, Contact Numbers: 08182-246161, 246163 Mob: 7760971951
Sd/- Managing Director

MARKET WATCH

	25-04-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	56,580	-1.08
US Dollar	76.64	-0.28
Gold	51,872	-1.14
Brent oil	100.72	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	859.55	-14.60
Apollo Hosp	4676.05	-137.65
Asian Paints	3130.60	-33.80
Axis Bank	780.70	0.10
Bajaj Auto	3682.95	40.45
Bajaj Finserv	15265.15	-189.05
Bajaj Finance	7005.50	-105.25
Bharti Airtel	739.35	0.60
BPCL	369.70	-23.70
Britannia Ind	3295.90	-68.20
Cipla	953.15	-13.85
Coal India	188.45	-13.70
Divis Lab	4410.10	-82.40
Dr Reddys Lab	4115.45	-77.30
Eicher Motors	2594.15	-37.35
Grasim Ind	1693.70	-23.15
HCL Tech	1089.85	-12.20
HDFC	2210.50	4.10
HDFC Bank	1365.75	10.15
HDFC Life	540.00	-14.05
Hero MotoCorp	2288.60	-5.65
Hindalco	495.50	-18.65
Hind Unilever	2100.75	-26.20
ICICI Bank	752.20	4.55
Indusind Bank	946.55	-13.10
Infosys	1561.10	-24.35
ITC	255.25	-5.85
JSW Steel	715.70	-7.70
Kotak Bank	1728.85	1.10
L&T	1657.35	-37.00
M&M	904.00	-16.65
Maruti Suzuki	7912.35	7.85
Nestle India Ltd.	18174.70	-13.05
NTPC	156.10	-4.35
ONGC	169.65	-4.35
PowerGrid Corp	222.85	-2.60
Reliance Ind	2695.00	-63.80
SBI Life	1091.25	-46.00
State Bank	494.75	-5.85
Shree Cement	25649.60	-205.65
Sun Pharma	900.00	-24.80
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	792.75	-22.85
Tata Motors	425.15	-13.70
Tata Steel	1220.35	-57.20
TCS	3548.20	-64.35
Tech Mahindra	1270.40	-36.10
Titan	2453.90	-58.80
UltraTech Cement	6595.05	-148.05
UPL	803.05	-13.50
Wipro	529.35	-8.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on April 25

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	76.49	76.81
Euro	82.00	82.37
British Pound	97.21	97.65
Japanese Yen (100)	59.67	59.94
Chinese Yuan	11.63	11.68
Swiss Franc	79.78	80.12
Singapore Dollar	55.60	55.84
Canadian Dollar	59.95	60.20
Malaysian Ringitt	17.54	17.64
Australian Dollar	54.67	54.90

Source:Indian Bank

IN BRIEF

Rupee slips 22 paise, Brent crude slides 5%

MUMBAI

The rupee on Monday slumped 22 paise to 76.64 against the U.S. dollar following heavy demand for the latter in the international markets, aided by the sell-off in domestic stock markets. Reuters adds that Brent crude declined by $5.19, or 4.9%, to $101.46 per barrel by 1145 GMT.

'No proposals finalised to restructure GST rates'

NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry said on Monday that no specific proposals had been finalised yet to restructure rates levied under the Goods and Services Tax regime. "No feedback from States has been sought on the GST rates for any specific items or specific proposals to restructure the rates," the ministry said in a statement, noting that a GoM set up by the GST Council to suggest rationalisation of tax rates was still deliberating the way forward.

Veranda Learning to buy T.I.M.E. for ₹287 crore

CHENNAI

Edtech firm Veranda Learning Solutions Ltd. has signed a definitive agreement to acquire T.I.M.E. (Advanced Educational Activities Pvt. Ltd.), a leading test pre-institute in Hyderabad, for a consideration of ₹287 crore. "This 100% acquisition will be in a phased manner with 80% of the outstanding capital along with management control in phase 1, followed by the purchase of the remaining 20% at the end of two years," Veranda Learning said in a statement.

Amit Luthra made MD of infra solutions at Lenovo

BENGALURU

Lenovo has appointed Amit Luthra as MD of its infrastructure solutions group (ISG) business in India. He would be instrumental in growing the edge, hybrid cloud, AI, high-performance computing, hyper-converged infrastructure and storage solutions portfolio, in addition to strengthening ISG's relationships with the partner ecosystem, the company said in a statement.

'Labour participation dips to 40% from 46% in six years'

Labour force participation for women drops to 9.2% from 15%, CMIE data show

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Only 40% of Indians of legal working age were employed or were looking for jobs in 2021-22. In comparison, the labour force participation rate was above 46% in 2016-17, according to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy.

In absolute terms, India's labour force has shrunk from about 445 million to 435 million in the six years. Currently, about 1,085 million Indians are aged 15 or above and can be legally employed.

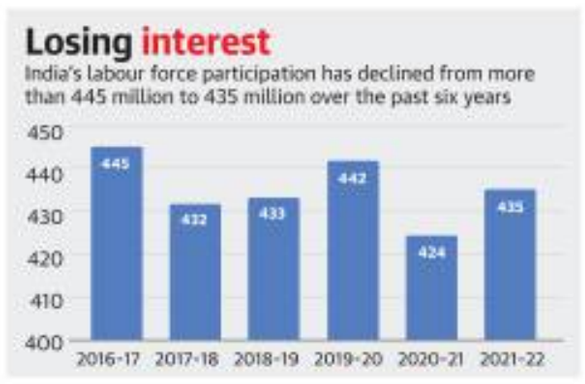
Labour force participation among women, which was already in low double digits, has declined further. In 2016-17, about 15% women were employed or looking for jobs. This metric dipped to 9.2% in 2021-22.

Among men, the participation rate declined to 67%, from more than 74%. The dip in the participation rate was higher in the urban areas.

The rate slid to 37.5% from 44.7% in urban areas – a more than seven percentage-point drop. The rate in rural areas fell to 41.4% from 46.9%. Of the 24 States with data, 23 saw participation rates decline in March 2022 compared with March 2016.

The rate dropped in all the States, except in Rajasthan. The slide was more pronounced in two southern States, which had a high participation rate to start with.

Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu had participation rates of 54% and 56%, respectively, in March 2016, and witnessed the sharpest declines. Between 2016 and 2022, participation rates fell 20 percentage points and 17 percentage points for Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh respectively.



'Govt. must cut duty on fuel if oil price stays above $100'

CII president urges 'efficient welfarism', flags inflation

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

The government should consider offering relief to Indian consumers by paring excise duties on petroleum products, if global crude oil prices remain above $100 a barrel, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) president T.V. Narendran said on Monday.

Mooting a mix of 'some efficient welfarism with appropriate policy action to control inflation', Mr. Narendran indicated it was essential to sustain consumption.

"While most sectors have recovered to pre-pandemic activity levels, the recovery in consumption had been a bit fragile and demand is starting to strengthen now," he said in an interview.

T.V. Narendran

"If oil prices stay above $100, then if there is something that can be done on excise duties, etc. to reduce the pressure on the common man... that's something to be considered along with checking if there is some room between the refiners' margin and the retail margins," he suggested. The CII is also mooting a simplification of the Goods and Services Tax regime with fewer rates and resolution of anomalies in norms relating to taxes deducted at source and tax collected at source to spur the economy amid the heightened uncertainty caused by the war in Europe and surging input costs.

"To be fair to the RBI, it has been very prudent so far and too much inflation is also not good for economic activity," he said, adding that the government must persist with its infrastructure spending focus.

Future group stocks slide as RIL nixes deal

Consumer, lifestyle arms drop 19.9%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Most Future Group companies' stocks on Monday hit the lower circuit at the stock exchanges during intraday trade, two days after Reliance Industries Ltd. called off its ₹24,731-crore deal with Future, following a vote by the latter's creditors against the transaction.

While Future Enterprises Ltd. fell 9.87% to ₹5.66 a share, Future Market Networks Ltd. fell 14.3% to ₹7.07. The biggest losers were Future Consumer and Future Lifestyle Fashions, which slid 19.9% to ₹3.90 and 19.9% to ₹29.40. Future Supply Chain Solutions. dropped 19.9% to ₹37.35.

However, Future Retail Ltd. managed to minimise its loss, as the stock dipped 4.96% to ₹27.80. The correction came on a day when key indices also suffered losses. The S&P BSE Sensex slid 617.26, or 1.08% to 56,579.89. The NSE Nifty 50 index lost 218 points, or 1.27% to 16,953.95.

"Global markets were painted red due to below-par earnings results," Vinod Nair, head of research at Geojit Financial Services, said.

LIC IPO said to open on May 4

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The initial public offering (IPO) of the country's largest insurer LIC will open on May 4 and close on May 9, sources said.

The IPO, through which the government will sell 3.5% stake in the state-owned Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), will fetch ₹21,000 crore to the exchequer. The IPO values LIC at ₹6 lakh crore.

The government had in February planned to sell 5% stake, or 31.6 crore shares, in the insurance behemoth and had filed draft papers with SEBI.

However, the government's IPO plans faced headwinds from the ongoing market volatility due to the Russia-Ukraine war.

India's Russian oil imports in 2 months exceed twice 2021 total

40 mn barrels bought since Feb. 24 versus 16 mn in 2021

REUTERS
NEW DELHI

India has bought more than twice as much crude oil from Russia in the two months since its invasion of Ukraine as it did in the whole of 2021, according to Reuters calculations, as Indian refiners snapped up discounted oil that others have shunned.

Refiners in India have placed orders for at least 40 million barrels of Russian oil since the invasion on February 24, Reuters calculations based on information from crude tenders and traders show. The purchases are for loading in the June quarter.

That compares with total imports of Russian oil into India of 16 million barrels in the whole of last year, according to Reuters calculations. India ships in more than 85% of its crude oil needs of 5 million barrels per day. Its refiners are buying cheaper Russian oil to partly offset the impact of higher official selling prices of producers like Saudi Arabia, company sources said.

According to Reuters calculations, purchases of Russian barrels by private refiners outstrip imports by state refiners IOC, HPCL and BPCL. Reliance has bought at least 15 million barrel of Russian oil so far for the June quarter, trade sources said last week.

Nayara Energy, part owned by Russia's Rosneft, has purchased 8-9 million barrels of Russian crude for loading in April-May, trade sources said. Analysts said India's Russian oil imports may taper off as a full-scale implementation of the European and U.S. sanctions from mid-May and late June might hit logistics.

Elon Musk to buy Twitter for $44 billion

REUTERS

Elon Musk clinched a deal to buy Twitter Inc. for $44 billion on Monday in a transaction that will shift control of the social media platform populated by millions of users and global leaders to the world's richest person.

Discussions over the deal, which last week appeared uncertain, accelerated over the weekend after Mr. Musk wooed Twitter shareholders with financing details of his offer.

"Free speech is the bedrock of a functioning democracy, and Twitter is the digital town square where matters vital to the future of humanity are debated," Mr. Musk said in a statement.

TVS Motor, Petronas form racing team

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

TVS Motor Company on Monday said that it had partnered Kuala Lumpur-based Petronas to form Petronas TVS Racing Team.

With this alliance, the energy company would become the title partner of factory racing team TVS Racing.

The team would participate in all formats of domestic two-wheeler racing.

Petronas is also set to supply its high-performance engine oil, Petronas Sprinta, to the team that would participate in road racing. The partnership is complemented by a strategic business alliance with Petronas Lubricants International to develop Petronas TVS TRU4 RacePro, co-branded oil that would be available in May.

Shriram enters pact to sell 90 acres to Logos

Warehousing firm will invest $100 mn

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Warehousing and logistics park is expected to generate 50,000 direct and indirect jobs in West Bengal

Realty company Shriram Properties and Logos, an APAC-based warehousing and logistics developer firm, have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a potential sale of up to 90 acres of land in Shriram Grand City at Uttarpara in Kolkata.

The land would be developed into a warehousing and logistics park by Logos.

Logos would invest about $100 million in this project, that would cover land value, cost of development and construction of 2.2 million sq. ft of industrial and warehousing space.

The MoU for the proposed transaction was signed at the Global Investor Summit organised by the government of West Bengal in Kolkata and is subject to necessary due diligence and certain regulatory and governmental approvals.

The park is expected to generate 50,000 local direct and indirect jobs in West Bengal. The transaction is expected to be completed during the second half of fiscal 2023.

"Logos' proposed investment in Shriram Grand City will transform the micro-market and allow us to realise superior value for both companies' stakeholders," said M. Murali, Chairman and Managing Director of Shriram Properties Limited.

'Indian entities filed 1.38 lakh patents from 2015 to 2021'

They also filed more than 9,500 patents in U.S. : Nasscom

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Entities in India had filed 1,38,000 tech patents in the country and more than 9,500 patents in the U.S. from 2015 to 2021, according to India Patents Report published by Nasscom.

More than 60% of the patents were filed by Indian firms and start-ups while 17% of the tech patents were filed by individual inventors/academia research outfits.

Some 65% of the total patents filed in the U.S. in 2020-21 by India-domiciled firms were in the technology domain, compared with 55% in 2019. Some 45% of the filings had been granted technology patents.

Besides, more than 400 technology patents were filed by Indian start-ups from 2015 to 2021, an increase of 45% from the 280 patents in the 2015-2019 period, the study showed.

Some 21% of the tech patents were related to software applications, healthcare and medical devices and other leading segments.

"The study marks the start of our IP charter for FY2023, which will be followed by a deep-dive analysis into the tech patents filed in India," said the apex body in a statement.

Strike rate: Some 45% of the filings had been granted technology patents, says Nasscom. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Jayanagara Division,
39th Cross, 18th Main Road, Jayanagara 4th T Block, Bengaluru-41.
No: EE(JN)DM/E-PROC/01/2022-23 Date: 22.04.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TENDER
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Jayanagara Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD or any State Government Organization for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the Work / Category	Approx. Value of Work (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹)
1.	Improvements to road side drain footpath and roads in Nakkalubande and surrounding area in Ward No-169 Byrasandra (Others)	50.00	1,00,000/-
2.	Improvements to road side drains, footpath and roads in 39th cross road from 26th Main to 28th Main road and surrounding area in Ward No-170 Jayanagara East (Others)	49.00	98,000/-
3.	Improvements to road side drain, footpath and roads in Indiragandhi colony and corporation colony and surrounding area in Ward No-170 (Two cover) (Others)	55.00	1,10,000/-
4.	Improvements to road side drains and roads in old Gurappanapalya and surrounding area in Ward No-171 (Two cover) (Others)	60.00	1,20,000/-
5.	Improvements to road side drain and roads in Bismillahnagara and surrounding area in Ward No-171 (Two cover) (Others)	90.00	1,80,000/-
6.	Comprehensive development of 1st Main road and Masjid road in Bismillahnagara Ward No-171 (Two cover) (Others)	99.00	1,98,000/-
7.	Improvements to drains in JP Nagara 5th Phase and 6th Phase Ward No-178 (Others)	40.00	80,000/-

Calendar of Events : (1) Tenders must be submitted online on or before 11.05.2022 at 4:00 pm. (2) Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Jayanagara Division on 12.05.2022 at 4:30 pm. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Jayanagara Division

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Karnataka Neeravari Nigama
(Government of Karnataka undertaking)

Short Term Notification

Reference: This office tender notification No: 547 Dated:22.04.2022

Electronic percentage tender through e-procurement platform is invited by the Executive Engineer, K.N.N.L., No.6, Canal Division, Ballari, on behalf of M.D., KNNL Bangalore for taking up of work in two cover system LIFT IRRIGATION Work Estimation amount from **Rs.65 Lakhs.** The last day for the submission of tender is **04-05-2022 at 4.30**pm and Technical bid opening day is **05-05-2022 at 5.30** pm and Financial bid opening day is **07-05-2022** or next convenient day will be informed to successful bidders, For more information **https://eproc.Kamataka.gov.in** may visited or may contact this office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL, No.6, Canal Division, Ballari

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1998SGC025521)
No. 605/EEE/MWD/AEE(O)/HBL/2022-23/274-77 Date : 18-04-2022

NOTIFICATION

KPTCL has formulated schemes under Electricity Act-2003 and the schemes are here by published. This notification is issued for the information of the concerned persons and general public.

1) Name of the work : Replacement of existing Dog/ Wolf conductor by Lynx conductor of 110KV NK-1 and NK-2 line from 110KV Kawalwad Sub station to 220KV SRS Hubballi Station for a distance of 32 Kms along with strengthening of line by replacing Weakened towers in Kalaghatagi-Hubballi Taluk, Dharwad District. **Cost of the project :** Rs. 869.92 Lakhs. **Need for Sub station and line :** Quality of power supply and voltage improvement in and around 110KV Kadanakoppa, Kalaghatagi, Kawalwad, Umachagi and Kiravatti and Sub stations. **Line passes through :** Hubballi, Vidyuth nagar, Santosh Nagar, Kempageri, Anchatageri, Chavaragudda, Chalamatti, Kadanakoppa, Ugginakere, Hirehonnalli, Bisarahalli, Begur, Hullambi, Tumrikoppa, Kudalagi, Kawalwad, and surrounding areas and Anchatageri, Tumarikoppa and Kudalgi reserved forest area.

2) Name of the work : Replacement of rusted 110KV GI lattice SC Towers along with conductor and ground wire by new 110KV DC GI Towers along with Lynx conductor and ground wire from Loc No: 90 to 138 of 110KV Narendra-Kittur SC line for a distance of 15.178 Kms in Dharwad/ Belgavi District. **Cost of the project :** Rs. 690.24 Lakhs. **Need for Sub station and line :** Quality of power supply and voltage improvement in and around 110KV Kittur and 110KV Garag (Shedbal)Sub stations. **Line passes through :** Dharwad, Narendra, Mammigatti, Belur, Niralakatti, Kotur, Agasanahalli, Shinganahalli, Dubbanamaradi, Bogur, Mugali, Madanabhavi, Marigeri Shivanur and surrounding areas.

KPTCL shall have and excercise all powers which the telegraphic authorities possess under Part III of the Teleghaphic Act 1885 for implementation of the above said schemes. Objections if any regarding the project shall be sent to the under signed within 15 days from the date of publication of this notification.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele),
Major Works Division, KPTCL, Hubballi.

Shikhar Dhawan sets up Punjab Kings' narrow win over Super Kings

His 110-run partnership off 71 deliveries with Rajapaksa flattens the CSK attack; Rayudu's brilliant 39-ball 78 goes in vain as Arshdeep stifles the chase

IPL 2022

S. DINAKAR
MUMBAI

Shikhar Dhawan's free-spirited batting and his sheer physicality has the heart and the rhythm of *Bhangra*, a popular Punjabi dance.

Cricket and batting for him is a celebration, a waltz where he expresses himself.

The left-handed opener's unbeaten 59-ball 88 was a major hand in Punjab Kings' 11-run win over Chennai Super Kings in their Tata-IPL clash at the Wankhede Stadium on Monday.

Eventually, Punjab Kings' 187 for four after being inserted proved a couple of hits too far for Super Kings, with the talismanic M.S. Dhoni blasting a four and a six towards the end but succumbing to seamer Rishi Dhawan's outside the leg-stump delivery in the last over.

Turning it on: Dhawan provided the Kings' innings a big thrust before Rayudu cut loose to give Super Kings a sniff at victory. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Heavy hitting

It was a chase where the little Ambati Rayudu did some heavy lifting with a 39-ball 78 of nifty footwork, innovative strokeplay and power.

Rayudu's onslaught on seamer Sandeep Sharma was breathtaking. It was brave, raw and brutal with leg-side sixes, a slashed six and an on-the-walk boundary,

The 16th over yielded 23 runs. CSK was in the hunt.

But then, champions pull their weight when it matters most. The fast Kagiso Rabada yorked Rayadu. It was a clinical strike.

Hefty blows

Skipper Ravindra Jadeja and Dhoni struck a few hefty blows but miracles don't happen everyday. CSK has to rely on consistency.

CSK lost wickets in the chase. Robin Uthappa perished attempting to biff Sandeep into the Marine Drive. Mitchell Santner left his leg-stump exposed to Arshdeep Singh and Shivam Dube played on to Rishi Dhawan.

Ruturaj Gaikwad, timing the ball sweetly, promised much but Rabada, that man again, removed him with a fuller length ball just outside off.

For Punjab, the crafty left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh too was a hero, bowling nervelessly at the death.

Livingstone's cameo

Earlier, the electrifying Liam Livingstone provided a boost to the Kings' innings with a seven-ball 19.

■ Punjab Kings' 187 for four after being inserted proved a couple of hits too far for Super Kings

Livingstone cut loose with reflexes, power and precision. The key was the quickness with which he picked Dwaine Pretorius' length.

Dhawan too innovated and created in the end overs, coaxing the ball through the gaps.

The 110-run partnership between Dhawan and Bhanuka Rajapaksa was the backbone of the innings.

Dhawan square-drove, back-cut and whipped the pacemen, and lofted and swept the spinners.

Rajapaksa (42), a natural striker of the ball, played his strokes with authority,

Left-arm spinner Santner bowled capably and it was surprising that he sent down just two overs.

Punjab wasn't complaining.

SCOREBOARD

PUNJAB KINGS

Mayank Agarwal c Dube b Theekshana 18 *(21b, 2x4)*, Shikhar Dhawan (not out) 88 *(59b, 9x4, 2x6)*, Bhanuka Rajapaksa c Dube b Bravo 42 *(32b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Liam Livingstone c Mukesh b Bravo 19 *(7b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Jonny Bairstow run out 6 *(3b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-1, w-11, nb-2): 14; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 187.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-37 (Mayank, 5.5 overs), 2-147 (Rajapaksa, 17.2), 3-174 (Livingstone, 19.1), 4-187 (Bairstow, 19.6).

SUPER KINGS BOWLING

Mukesh 4-0-36-0, Theekshana 4-0-32-1, Santner 2-0-8-0, Jadeja 2-0-18-0, Pretorius 4-0-50-0, Bravo 4-0-42-2

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS

Ruturaj Gaekwad c Mayank b Rabada 30 *(27b, 4x4)*, Robin Uthappa c R. Dhawan b Sandeep 1 *(7b)*, Mitchell Santner b Arshdeep 9 *(15b, 1x4)*, Shivam Dube b R. Dhawan 8 *(7b, 1x4)*, Ambati Rayudu b Rabada 78 *(39b, 7x4, 6x6)*, Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 21 *(16b, 1x4, 1x6)*, M.S. Dhoni c Bairstow b R. Dhawan 12 *(8b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Dwaine Pretorius (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-9, w-7): 16; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 176.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-10 (Uthappa, 1.5 overs), 2-30 (Santner, 5.3), 3-40 (Dube, 6.6), 4-89 (Ruturaj, 12.3), 5-153 (Rayudu, 17.5), 6-168 (Dhoni, 19.3).

PUNJAB KINGS BOWLING

Rabada 4-0-23-2, Sandeep 4-0-40-1, R. Dhawan 4-0-39-2, Arshdeep 4-0-23-1, R. Chahar 3-0-30-0, Livingstone 1-0-12-0

Toss: Chennai Super Kings

Punjab Kings won by 11 runs.

POINTS TABLE

Teams	M	W	L	Pts	NRR
Gujarat Titans	7	6	1	12	0.396
Sunrisers Hyderabad	7	5	2	10	0.691
Rajasthan Royals	7	5	2	10	0.432
Lucknow Super Giants	8	5	3	10	0.334
Royal Challengers Bangalore	8	5	3	10	-0.472
Punjab Kings	8	4	4	8	-0.419
Delhi Capitals	7	3	4	6	0.715
Kolkata Knight Riders	8	3	5	6	0.080
Chennai Super Kings	8	2	6	4	-0.538
Mumbai Indians	8	0	8	0	-1.000

After the PBKS-CSK match on April 25

Innings scan

PBKS		CSK
29	Dots	49
15	Fours	15
6	Sixes	8
37/1	PP	32/2
9.35	RR	8.80

Next assignment

PBKS: Apr. 29 vs. **LSG**
MCA Stadium, 7.30 p.m.

CSK: May 1 vs. **SRH**
MCA Stadium, 7.30 p.m.

Thought our bowlers did a good job: Jayawardene

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

It's a nightmare that never quite seems to end for the Mumbai Indians. The five-time winner of the IPL suffered its shocking eighth successive defeat this season, going down to Lucknow Super Giants on Sunday.

MI's coach Mahela Jayawardene said, "I thought [168] was an under-par score with one boundary short and felt our bowlers had done a good job."

LIVE TELECAST

Khelo India Games: DD Sports, 6.30 a.m. onwards
NBA: Sports 18, Vh1, MTV, Voot Select & Jio TV, 7.30 a.m.
IPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Champions League: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

Another injury blow for CSK

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Chennai Super Kings suffered an injury blow when its all-rounder Moeen Ali hurt his ankle during training. He has been sent for scans to know about the seriousness of the injury.

Moeen, a success last season for CSK, has been struggling both with bat and ball this season and was replaced for the last match by Kiwi Mitchell Santner. CSK has already lost its star paceman Deepak Chahar for the entire season because of fitness concerns.

LSG fined for slow over rate

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Lucknow Super Giants has been fined for its slow over rate during the match against Mumbai Indians on Sunday. This was the team's second offence of the season under code of conduct relating to minimum over rate offences.

LSG captain K.L. Rahul was fined ₹24 lakh and the other members in the playing eleven were fined ₹6 lakh or 25% of their match fee, whichever is lower.

Royals stand in RCB's course-correction path

Kohli's form remains a concern; Buttler firing on all cylinders

ASHWIN ACHAL

After a disastrous outing a few days ago, Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) will be keen to course correct when it takes on Rajasthan Royals (RR) in the IPL at the Maharashtra Cricket Association Stadium (Pune) on Tuesday.

An inept batting display saw RCB fold for 68 against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) on Saturday, leading to a crushing nine-wicket defeat.

The form of RCB's star batter Virat Kohli, who averages 17 in eight outings, is under the scanner. Kohli has been dismissed for two consecutive golden ducks, and will be desperate to turn the corner with a big knock on Tuesday.

Dinesh Karthik, who has excelled as a finisher this season, may be required to play saviour yet again.

Karthik and Buttler... the dashers. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Australian fast bowler Josh Hazlewood, who has made an impact in his limited appearances thus far, will lead the RCB attack.

RR enters this encounter full of confidence, having notched up victories in its previous two games. Opening batter Jos Buttler is in great touch, with centuries to his name in the last two outings. The consistent trio of Sanju Samson, Devdutt Padikkal and Shimron Hetmyer will be expected to provide support to the marauding Buttler.

On the bowling front, leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal and Bengaluru pacer Prasidh Krishna have been among the wickets.

RR and RCB are level on 10 points, but RR has a match in hand.

TODAY'S MATCH

RCB vs. RR

MCA STADIUM, 7.30 P.M.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Played: 25

RCB 13 | RR 10 | NR 2

Previous meeting: RCB won by 4 wickets, 2022

STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

Smith cleared of racism allegations

Arbitrators find no evidence to support 'tentative findings'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JOHANNESBURG

Former South Africa captain and director of cricket Graeme Smith has been cleared of allegations of racism, Cricket South Africa announced on Sunday.

Two independent arbitrators found there was no evidence to support tentative findings that Smith had shown racial bias in three instances.

Smith was among several people named in a report by Advocate Dumisa Ntsebeza, who had been appointed by CSA as an ombudsman in what were termed Social Justice and Nation Building hearings last year.

Ntsebeza made only "tentative findings" and recommended that formal proceedings be instituted.

The two arbitrators, Advocate Ngwako Maenetjie and Advocate Michael Bishop conducted a process in which both Smith and CSA had legal representation and during which witnesses were called and cross-examined.

Vindication: Smith has been cleared of all charges. • FILE PHOTO

It had been alleged that Smith, while South Africa captain, discriminated against Thami Tsolekile, a specialist wicketkeeper, after Mark Boucher was injured before a Test series in England in 2012. A.B. de Villiers, one of the team's leading batters, kept wickets in the series which South Africa won.

The other two charges related to Smith's tenure as CSA director of cricket which ended at the end of March. He did not reapply for the position which is currently vacant.

Reverse against Rayo rattles Barca

Real has a chance to seal La Liga title during the weekend

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BARCELONA

Barcelona suffered a shock 1-0 defeat by Rayo Vallecano on Sunday, handing Real Madrid the chance to win La Liga if it draws at home to Espanyol next weekend. Alvaro Garcia scored the winner as early as the seventh minute.

Barca's place in the top four is still not secure either after a third consecutive defeat at Camp Nou continued their late-season wobble and saw them squander the chance to pull away in the race for Champions League qualification.

Real remains 15 points clear with five games left to play and while Barcelona has a better head-to-head, Carlo Ancelotti's side know Real would be uncatchable if it takes just a point at the Santiago Bernabeu on Saturday.

Barcelona should still have enough for the top four given it sits six points clear of Real Betis in fifth, with five games left to play, but winning this game in hand against an out-of-form Rayo side would certainly have made the run-in more comfortable.

Instead, its form, as much as the position, will be a real concern for coach Xavi, whose team has now won only twice in the last six matches.

Hero! Garcia celebrates after beating ter Stegen. • AFP

This loss comes after they were beaten at home by Eintracht Frankfurt in the Europa League quarterfinals and then defeated by Cadiz in La Liga, also 1-0.

Sevilla, in third, is level on points with Barcelona while Atletico Madrid, in fourth, is two points behind.

In Serie A, Sandro Tonali scored in stoppage time as AC Milan came from behind to win 2-1 at Lazio and retake top spot from reigning champion Inter Milan.

Ciro Immobile gave Lazio an early lead at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome, but Olivier Giroud levelled shortly after half-time before Tonali's late heroics kept Milan firmly in the title hunt. The win moved Milan back two points above of Inter.

Ciro Immobile also became the leading active scorer in Italy's top flight as his 181st Serie A goal took him past veteran Sampdoria striker Fabio Quagliarella. Immobile also extended his league-leading haul for the season to 26.

The results: La Liga: Barcelona 0 lost to Rayo Vallecano 1 (Alvaro Garcia 7).

Serie A: Salernitana 2 (Djuric 9, Bonazzoli 79) bt Fiorentina 1 (Saponara 64); Bologna 2 (Hickey 6, Sansone 59) drew with Udinese 2 (Udogie 25, Success 46); Empoli 3 (Henderson 80, Pinamonti 83, 88) bt Napoli 2 (Mertens 44, Insigne 53); Genoa 1 (Badelj 89) bt Cagliari 0; Lazio 1 (Immobile 4) lost to AC Milan 2 (Giroud 50, Tonali 90+2).

Bundesliga: VfL Bochum 0 lost to Augsburg 2 (Hahn 15, Gregoritsch 43-pen); Hertha Berlin 2 (Selke 4, Belfodil 90+3) bt VfB Stuttgart 0.

Karnataka storms into semifinals

SANTOSH TROPHY

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANJERI

Karnataka stormed into the semifinals of the Santosh Trophy National Football Championships after it crushed Gujarat 4-0 in the last league match at the Payyanad stadium here on Monday.

Karnataka, which needed to beat Gujarat by a three-goal margin to sneak ahead of Odisha on goal difference, did in style. Sudheer Kotikela struck a brace (12, 29) while P. Kamalesh (28) and Magesh Selva (60) scored the other goals. Karnataka had a feisty start and pumped in three goals within the first 30 minutes to seal the contest.

In a lively first half, striker Sudheer, with a quality finish in the 12th minute, opened scoring while P. Kamalesh increased the lead in the 28th minute with a right footed volley from top of the box. A minute later, Sudheer tapped in a fine cross from right to score his second goal. Magesh Selva completed the tally with another clinical finish in the 60th minute.

Earlier, defending champion Services did Karnataka a huge favour by ending Odisha's semifinal hopes with a 2-0 win at the Kottappadi stadium.

Odisha, which needed only a draw to qualify, paid the price for complacency as Services slotted in two late goals to end its campaign on a winning note. Vivek Kumar (74) and Nikhil Sharma (82) scored for Services.

The result: Karnataka 3 (Sudheer Kotikel 12, 29, P. Kamalesh 28, Magesh Selva 60) bt Gujarat 0.

Services 2 (Vivek Kumar 74, Nikhil Sharma 82) bt Odisha 0.

Opportunistic: Nikhil Sharma, second from left, fires in Services' second goal against Odisha. • SAKEER HUSSAIN

WTA and ATP could take hard stance on Wimbledon's decision

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

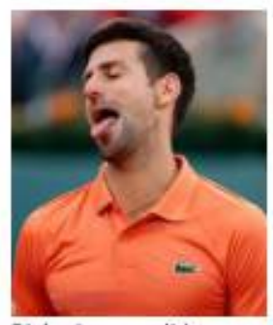
WTA president Steve Simon warned Wimbledon that it faces "strong reactions" to their decision to ban Russian and Belarusian players and the week ahead could see more twists in the controversy which has split tennis. The ATP and WTA have already described the ban as "unfair" and "very disappointing".

ATP and WTA officials are expected to meet on the sidelines of the Madrid Open this week to discuss their response to the crisis.

'Exhibition event'

As the Grand Slam tournaments are autonomous, possible sanctions by the ATP and the WTA could include a refusal to award ranking points at the June 27-July 10 Grand Slam tournament. That could reduce Wimbledon to the status of a high-profile exhibition event.

The ATP does not seem inclined to take legal action, while according to French daily *L'Equipe*, which obtained an email sent by the WTA to its players, the body is studying "the actions that you (the players) could take according to the Grand Slam regulations".



Djokovic...no politics please. • AFP

World No.1 Novak Djokovic had recently said the move was "crazy". "I will always condemn war, I will never support war being myself a child of war. I know how much emotional trauma it leaves....however, I cannot support the decision of Wimbledon, I think it is crazy. When politics interferes with sport, the result is not good."

On Tuesday, the AELTC will hold its annual Wimbledon event launch where the saga will dominate the agenda.

IN BRIEF

Jokic helps Nuggets beat Warriors, stay in series

WASHINGTON

Last season's MVP Nikola Jokic scored 37 points, eight rebounds and six assists as Denver Nuggets avoided being swept out of the NBA playoffs on Sunday, holding off Golden State Warriors 126-121.

The results: WC: Denver 126 bt Golden State 121 (Golden State leads 3-1); New Orleans 118 bt Phoenix 103 (series 2-2); **EC:** Chicago 95 lost to Milwaukee 119 (Milwaukee leads 3-1); Atlanta 86 lost to Miami 110 (Miami leads 3-1). AFP

Maini secures first points

IMOLA

Kush Maini finished fifth at Imola to earn his first points of the 2022 FIA Formula 3 Championship. The Bengaluru racer secured 10 points for his finish.

Alcaraz youngest entrant into ATP top 10 since Nadal

PARIS

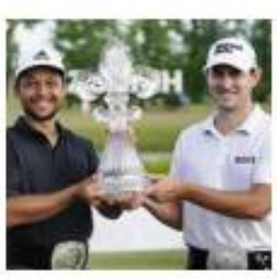
Spanish star Carlos Alcaraz, aged 18, on Monday became the youngest player to enter the top 10 of the ATP world rankings since his compatriot Rafael Nadal did so at the same age in 2005.

Alcaraz climbed two places to ninth following his victory over Pablo Carreno Busta in the Barcelona Open final on Sunday. AFP

Hataoka wins LA title; Aditi exits halfway

LOS ANGELES

Nasa Hataoka carded four-under 67 in the final round for a 15-under 269 and a five-stroke win over Australian Hannah Green, who carded a closing 68. Hataoka had a 35-foot eagle putt at the par-four 15th to lead by six shots. India's Aditi Ashok did not have a great week as she missed the cut with rounds of 77 and 73. PTI



Schauffele, Cantlay win Zurich Classic team title

MIAMI

Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay combined for a level-par 72 to complete a wire-to-wire victory at the PGA Tour's Zurich Classic of New Orleans team event on Sunday. The Americans finished on 29-under, two clear of Sam Burns and Billy Horschel, also of the United States, who carded a closing four-under 68. AFP

Sharath wins record-extending 10th title

Akula Sreeja claims her maiden singles crown and complements it with honours in doubles

TT NATIONALS

K. KEERTHIVASAN
SHILLONG

It was the turn of the star veteran and a newbie to bag the crowns in the senior National table tennis championships here on Monday.

PSPB's Sharath Kamal bagged his 10th title and Akula Sreeja of RBI her maiden crown, defeating G. Sathiyan (PSPB) and Mouma Das (PSPB) in the men's and women's finals respectively.

After overcoming Sathiyan 7-11, 12-10, 9-11, 7-11, 12-10, 11-9, 11-6, Sharath quickly congratulated one and all and ran halfway around the stadium. He was congratulated by a few officials as the entire crowd rose in unison to cheer the champion.

Sreeja's 11-8, 11-13, 12-10, 11-8, 11-6 victory over five-time champion Mouma Das proved that she has overcome the shackles and fear of Nationals in all categories and has now come of her own.

Scaling Everest

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Sharath said: "Winning the 10th title is like reaching the top of Mount Everest. I am sure someone will beat my mark as records are meant to be broken."

"I would like to dedicate the Trophy to D. Vishwa", added Sharath.

The 39-year-old also expressed his wish to win the team and doubles gold with Sathiyan at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

Sharath said that he had given a proposal to the CoA for him and the Indian teams to train in Europe – either with the German, French or Portuguese National teams ahead of the CWG.

The 23-year-old Sreeja, who claimed a double, said: "I have always not done well in all the Nationals across age categories.

On top: Sharath and Sreeja proudly display their reward for being the best on show. • RITU RAJ KONWAR

"This time I was focussed and was prepared for long pushes of Mouma and did what my coach (Somnath Ghosh) suggested," said Sreeja.

A special award in memory of the late paddler D. Vishwa was given to 19-year-old Diya Chitale of Maharashtra. Conrad Sangma, Chief Minister of Meghalaya, gave away the prizes.

Meanwhile, Gita Mittal, chairperson of Committee of Administrators, announced that the National junior & youth championships would be held in Alappuzha from June 17 to 23.

The results (finals): Men: Sharath Kamal (PSPB) bt G. Sathiyan (PSPB) 7-11, 12-10, 9-11, 7-11, 12-10, 11-9, 11-6.

Doubles: Sourav Saha & Do Rosario Wesley (Har) bt Soumyajit Ghosh & Jubin Kumar (Har) 11-5, 4-11,11-9, 7-11, 11-8.

Women: Akula Sreeja (RBI) bt Mouma Das (PSPB) 11-8, 11-13, 12-10, 11-8, 11-6.

Doubles: Akula Sreeja & Ayhika Mukherjee (RBI) bt Prapti Sen & Takeme Sarkar (RBI) 3-11, 11-9, 11-5, 12-10. **Mixed doubles:** Akash Pal & Prapti Sen (RSPB) bt Soumyajit Ghosh & Suhana Saini (Har) 9-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-7.

Praggnanandhaa wins again, faces Carlsen

CHESS

SPORTS BUREAU

R. Praggnanandhaa stretched his astounding winning sequence to three rounds when he stopped an upbeat Le Quang Liem 2.5-0.5 in the Oslo Esports Cup online rapid chess tournament in Oslo on Sunday.

The overnight leader now has nine points after posting yet another victory by a two-point margin, with a round to spare.

He now takes on second-placed World champion Magnus Carlsen (6), who bounced back from Saturday's defeat to Le Quang Liem and halted Anish Giri 2.5-0.5.

"When you win, of course you have a lot of fun! In general, I'm having a lot of fun playing these players. It's always a very good experience, a fun experience as well. Rapid is always fun," said a relaxed-looking Praggnanandhaa.

After Praggnanandhaa took a draw by repetition, in 33 moves in the first game, the second saw the Indian grind out a 93-move victory, following a pleasant position from the 30th move.

In the third game, the Vietnamese appeared on his way to victory till the 49th move.

Seizing the chance

But on the next move, he blundered. Praggnanandhaa seized his chance to ensure a 'queening-pawn' and won in 54 moves.

The results (third round): Le Quang Liem (Vie) lost to R. Praggnanandhaa 0.5-2.5; Anish Giri (Ned) lost to Magnus Carlsen (Nor) 0.5-2.5; Jorden van Foreest (Ned) lost to Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Pol) 0.5-2.5; Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze) lost to Eric Hansen (Can) 1.5-2.5.

Six competitors disqualified

Final results revised accordingly

SOUTH INDIA RALLY

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

The Stewards, late on Sunday, disqualified six competitors whose cars did not comply with technical regulations during post-event scrutiny at the conclusion of the MRF 45th South India Rally, the first round of the Blue Band Sports FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship 2022.

The final results were accordingly revised and those who had finished behind the disqualified competitors moved up a spot in the final classification of the event which concluded here on Sunday.

Those disqualified included Dean Mascarenhas who had finished second overall and first in the INRC-2 category, Jahaan Singh Gill (SNAP Racing), winner in INRC-3 and Junior INRC categories, Suhem Kabeer, Arnav Pratap Singh (SNAP Racing), Prakyat Shirole and Yeshwant Padala.

After scrutiny, the Technical Delegate reported that the cars of the six competitors did not "conform to technical regulations".

Based on this report and after summoning the competitors for a hearing, the stewards decided to disqualify the six drivers.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Jonathan scores four

Jonathan Aditya Piers scored four goals as Bangalore City FC walloped JSports FC 8-0 in the BDFA C-division football league on Monday.

The results: Reds United 4 (Sireesh 8, 11, Nihal 4, Suprith 49) bt Bagalkunte 0; Bangalore City 8 (Jonathan Aditya Piers 7, 8, 11, 44, Eliyah Anjanappa 14, Shri Hari Suresh 37, M.A. Abhijith 52, Diving Davis 54) bt JSports 0; Konkon 3 (Sujan 2, Robin 51, 53) bt RBI 1 (Inoth 36); Bentex 1 (Vijay Bharath 32) bt Bangalore Kickers 0.

Brace by Nandakumar

Nandakumar's brace helped Young Dreams FC defeat Jeevana Blues FC 5-1 in the KSFA C-division league on Monday.

The results: Young Dreams 5 (Daniel 2, R. Prashant 6, Prashanth 10, Nandakumar 21, 40) bt Jeevana Blues 1 (V. Sujith Kumar 60+1); MRU 1 (Vivek Chetrri 33) drew with BFA 1 (Hariharan 31).

Vishal excels

Vishal George top-scored with 72 as RXCA defeated CCE by seven wickets in an under-12 category match in the Tiger Cup cricket tournament on Monday.

The scores:

U-14: RXCA 197/9 in 30 overs (Vishal George 64, T.N.V. Siddarth 28, Nitish 46, Shreyas Raghunath 4/35) bt CCE 100 in 20.3 overs (Tanish Arun 37).

U-12: CCE 145/7 in 30 overs (Aaditya 44, Sujan 24, Ahan Udipi 3/20) lost to RXCA 146/3 in 19.5 overs (Vishal George 72 n.o.).

Delhi outclasses Karnataka

Delhi outclassed Karnataka by six wickets in the BCCI senior women's T20 Trophy at Rajkot on Monday.

The score: Karnataka 57 in 17.4 overs (C. Prathyusha 27, Soni Yadav 3/7, Riti Tomar 3/8) lost to Delhi 60/4 in 15.1 overs (Priya Punia 26 n.o.).

Petronas to be title partner of TVS Racing

SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI

TVS Motor Company, on Monday, announced an agreement with Petronas, an alliance that will see the energy company become the title partner of TVS Racing.

Rebranded as 'Petronas TVS Racing Team', the outfit will don a new livery as part of the alliance effective this season.

Petronas is also set to supply its high-performance engine oil, Petronas Sprinta, to the team that will participate in road-racing, supercross, and rally formats of racing, including the INMRC, INSC and INRC.

India blanks eighth seed Uzbekistan

WJT UNDER-14

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Arnav Paparkar and Tanussh Ghildyal powered India to a 3-0 victory over eighth seed Uzbekistan in a league match of the Asia-Oceania World Junior Tennis under-14 boys tournament at the DLTA Complex on Monday.

The results (league):

Group-A: Australia bt Syria 3-0; Korea bt Lebanon 3-0.

Group-B: Japan bt Jordan 3-0.

India bt Uzbekistan 3-0 (Arnav Paparkar bt Sukhrob Saidov 6-4, 6-0; Tanussh Ghildyal bt Abdurakhmon Khojiboev 6-1, 6-3; Tanussh & Arnav bt Sukhrob & Akhmadjon Toshmukhamedov 6-4, 7-5).

Group-C: Thailand bt Hong Kong 2-1; Iran bt Malaysia 3-0.

Group-D: Kazakhstan bt Indonesia 3-0; Pakistan bt Sri Lanka 3-0.

Indians miss out on medal contention

SPORTS BUREAU

Shreyasi Singh and Prithviraj Tondaiman narrowly missed fighting for a medal in mixed trap in the shotgun World Cup in Lonato, Italy. It was two Spanish teams that settled for the gold and silver.

The results: Trap mixed team: 1. Spain-1 (Alberto Fernandez, Fatima Galvez) 6 (140); 2. Spain-2 (Adria Martinez Torres, Mar Molne Magrina) 2 (138); 3. Slovakia (Adrian Drobny, Zuzana Rehak Stefecekova) 5(1) 137; 4. Italy-2 (Alessia Iezzi, Valerio Grazini) 5(0) 133; 3. Australia-2 (James Willett, Catherine Skinner) 7 (135); Czech Republic-2 (Jiri Liptak, Lea Kucerova) 3 (134); 7. India (Shreyasi Singh, Prithviraj Tondaiman 133(2); 26. India-2 (Shagun Chowdhary, Kynan Chenai) 120.

Jain's swimmers Siva and Srihari make a splash

KHELO VARSITIES

SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU

Swimmers Siva Sridhar and Srihari Nataraj led the charge for host Jain University, clinching three gold medals in record times, in the Khelo India University Games here on Monday.

While Siva finished ahead of the pack in men's 200m IM and 100m backstroke, Srihari touched the pad first in 50m freestyle.

SRM spikers in finals

Elsewhere, in volleyball, the SRM University men's and women's teams entered their respective summit clashes with contrasting wins. The men's outfit fought hard to defeat MG University 22-25, 25-16, 23-25, 27-25, 15-9, while the women recorded an easy 25-20, 25-14, 25-15 win over Adamas University.

Siva Sridhar... making waves. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The results (winners all):

Swimming: Men: 50m freestyle: Srihari Nataraj (Jain) 23.23 (NMR; Old: 23.78, Mihir Ambre, Bhubaneswar, 2020); **400m freestyle:** Shubham Dhaygude (Savitribai Phule) 4:17.67; **200m IM:** Siva Sridhar (Jain) 2:05.43 (NMR; Old: 2:13.66, Thirumaran Sethumanickam, Bhubaneswar, 2020); **100m backstroke:** 1. Siva Sridhar (Jain) 57.38 (NMR; Old: 58.69, Siddhanth Sejwal, Bhubaneshwar, 2020); **200m breaststroke:** 1. Danush Sekhar (Anna) 2:20.17 (NMR; Old: 2:23.41, SP Likhit, Bhubaneswar, 2020).

Women: 50m freestyle: Rujuta Khade (Shivaji) 27.38 (NMR; Old: 28.00, Sadhvi Dhuri, Bhubaneswar, 2020); **400m freestyle:** V. Varsha (Madras) 4:59.63; **4x200m freestyle relay:** University of Madras 9:53.66; **100m backstroke:** Shrungi Bandekar (Jain) 1:07.50 (NMR; Old: 1:10.42, Damini Gowda, Bhubaneswar, 2020); **200m breaststroke:** Jyoti Patil (Mumbai) 2:46.54.

Badminton (team, quarterfinals): Men: Punjabi bt Devi Ahilya 3-0; Jain bt Maharshi Dayanand 3-2; SRM bt Dibrugarh 3-0; **Women:** Madhurai Kamaraj bt Panjab 2-0; SRM bt Barkatullah 2-0.

Volleyball (semifinals): Men: SRM bt MG 22-25, 25-16, 23-25, 27-25, 15-9; **Women:** SRM bt Adamas 25-20, 25-14, 25-15; Bharathiar bt MG 25-19, 25-15, 25-20.

Basketball: Men: Kurukshetra bt 73-67; Madras bt Mumbai 100-54; **Women:** MG bt GNDU 96-79; Madras bt Mumbai 100-54.

Hockey: Men: Bangalore 6 (S. Harsha 5, B. Yathish Kumar 13, 49, BN Chelsea Medappa 19, 37, ND Chiranth Somanna 58) bt Lovely Professional 1 (Lovepreet Jainth 42); Savitribai Phule 3 (Rohan Patil 37, 51, Taleb Shah 43) bt Punjabi 2 (Harmeet Singh 34, 35); Sambalpur 3 (Nabin Kujur 39, 42, 52) drew with Bangalore City 3 (Pranam 29, 57, 58); Guru Nanak Dev 4 (Rajinder Singh 44, 59, Surdarshan Singh 29, Ranjot Singh 42) bt VBS Purvanchal 1 (Suraj Shahi 23).

Women: Ranchi 3 (Pramila Soreng 23, Betan Dungdung 33, Albela Rani Toppo 35) bt Savitribai Phule 2 (Pooja Shendage 14, 42).

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Golden finish for Tarun and Nitesh

Kadam's silver, Bhagat's bronzes takes Indian tally to 28 medals

PARA BADMINTON

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Tarun Dhillon and Sukant Kadam clinched a gold and silver respectively in the SL4 class, while Nitesh Kumar bagged gold and Tokyo Paralympic champion Pramod Bhagat bagged two bronzes (singles and mixed doubles with Palak Kohli) in SL3 at the Brazil Para Badminton International in Sao Paulo on Sunday.

In total, the Indian squad clinched eight golds, seven silver and 13 bronzes in a creditable outing.

In the SL4 category, Tarun beat Kadam 21-17, 20-22, 21-18 in final.

Nitesh, who beat Bhagat in the semifinals, won gold defeating Japan's Daisuke Fujihara 21-15 18-21 21-18

Other winners: Gold: Parul Parmar (SL3), Jyoti Verma (SL4), Manisha Ramdas (SU5), Hardik Makkar-Ruthik Raghupathi (SU5), Arwaz Ansari-Deep Ranjan Bisoyee (SL3-SL4) and Manisha Ramdas-Mandeep Kaur (SL3-SU5).

Pleased as punch: The Indian contingent is all smiles after a successful campaign. • TWITTER/SAI MEDIA

Silver: Prem Kumar Ale (WH1), Mandeep Kaur (SL3), Nithya Sre (SH6), Palak Kohli-Parul Parmar (SL3-SU5), Chirag Baretha-Mandeep Kaur (SL3-SU5) and Tarun Dhillon-Nitesh Kumar (SL3-SL4).

Bronze: Manoj Sarkar (SL3), Nilesh Gaikwad (SL4), Dhingaram (SH6), Ammu Mohan (WH2), Manoj Sarkar-Vikram Kumar (SL3-SL4), Chirag Baretha-Nilesh Gaikwad (SU5), Prem Kumar Ale-Abu Hubaida (WH1-WH2), Shashank Kumar-Ammu Mohan (WH1-WH2), Ammu Mohan (WH1-WH2), Arati Patil (SL3-SU5), Nithya Sre-Latatai Umrekar (SH6) and Pramod Bhagat-Palak Kohli (SL3-SU5).